Appendix A

PLACER COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

11414 B Avenue/Auburn, California 95603/Telephone (530) 889-7470/FAX (530) 889-7499
Web Page: http://www.placer.ca.gov/planning E-Mail: ljlawren@placer.ca.gov

November 7, 2001

Roberta MacGlashan, AICP
Quad Knopf
One Sierragate Plaza, Suite 270C
Roseville, CA 95678

Subject: **Foresthill Divide Community Plan – SCH #2001092094**
Notice of Preparation Comments

Dear Roberta:

Comments generated during the Notice of Preparation (NOP) review for the subject project are enclosed for your review and response in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Any additional comments that may be received will be forwarded to you by fax.

The first administrative draft EIR (20 copies) should be received by this office no later than **March 11, 2002**. If you require additional time in order to prepare the EIR, please do not hesitate to contact this office and request a suspension of the processing timeframes.

Sincerely,

Lori Lawrence

LORI LAWRENCE
Planning Technician

Attached comments: Placer County Department of Public Works, 10/26/01
Placer County Environmental Health Services, 10/26/01
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 10/30/01
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), 10/23/01
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, 10/2/01

cc: ERC members

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

County of Placer

TO: LORI LAWRENCE, PLANNING DEPT. DATE: October 26, 2001

FROM: DAVID W. PRICE, DPW - LAND DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT – FORESTHILL DIVIDE COMMUNITY PLAN; PLACER COUNTY

We have completed our review of the above referenced application and would like to offer the following comments.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

WATER

1. The NOP correctly indicates the relative significance of potential impacts and generally appears to indicate the appropriate impacts for evaluation in the EIR.

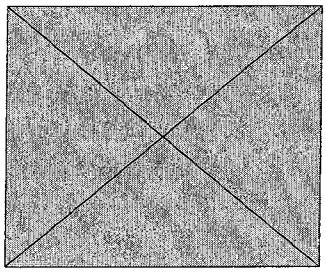
2. The impacts identified and evaluated should be refined in the Environmental Impact Report. Impact 4b is considered Less than Significant in the NOP, but an aspect of flood hazard not discussed is the contribution of the plan area to downstream flooding. It may be evident that a reduction in the future holding capacity of the Community Plan Area will result in less intense development, therefore less storm runoff. However, rather than dismiss this impact as less than significant without any discussion in the EIR, we recommend referencing any available flood plain studies for the American River and other potentially impacted water courses downstream which could support this finding. It would seem likely that assumptions in such flood plain studies would have had to take into account the final buildout of the Foresthill Divide Plan area. A discussion of the findings included in such regional studies could reinforce the argument that the proposed Community Plan update will have a less than significant impact on water related hazards to which people or property are exposed.

3. Impact 4d describes increased storm runoff due to new development and construction as a Potentially Significant Impact. This seems to contradict the finding made regarding Impact 4b, which identifies water related hazards to which people or property are exposed as Less Than Significant. If an argument for Less Than Significant impacts due to exposure to water related hazards is based on reduced carrying capacity within the Community Plan Area (therefore less runoff), would not changes in the amount of water in any water body similarly be Less than Significant, given the same set of future conditions? The DPW recommends this be considered carefully in the preparation of the EIR.

4. Is the American River, which is a Wild and Scenic River, considered an important water resource given the EIAQ wording of question 4j (i.e. "..including, but not limited to...")?

TRANSPORTATION / CIRCULATION

1. The DPW recommends careful review of the rationale for significance to be presented in the EIR. In the NOP, Impact 6c is considered potentially significant although policies and mitigation measures in the Community Plan are included in the discussion which would appear to reduce such impacts to a less than significant level. In contrast, Impact 4j is dismissed as less than significant due to implementation of Community Plan policies. It would seem prudent to apply the same rationale to different Impacts, for the sake of consistency (i.e. if an impact is to be considered mitigated to a level less than significant through policies and mitigations included in the Community Plan, then similar thinking should be applied on all impacts). Alternatively, if all impacts are addressed to varying degrees through mitigation measures and policies included in the Community Plan, the EIR should clearly state which impacts remain significant and unmitigable after policy and mitigation implementation.



11464 B Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603 · (530) 889-7130 · Fax (530) 889-7107

Todd K. Nishikawa, Acting Air Pollution Control Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lori Lawrence, Environmental Review Clerk

FROM: Dave Vintze, Associate Air Quality Planner

DATE: October 26, 2001

SUBJECT: Foresthill Divide Community Plan NOP

The District has reviewed the Notice of Preparation for the Foreshill Divide Community Plan Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (DPEIR). Buildout of this area based on the proposed Community Plan and Zoning designations could result in significant air quality impacts locally and regionally. The District recommends the following issues be analyzed in the DPEIR.

1. Provide background information regarding the existing air quality in the Foresthill area and throughout the Mountain Counties and Sacramento Valley Air Basin. Describe the existing air quality regulatory structure, and the responsibilities of air quality agencies at the state, federal and local level. Discuss how all air quality regulatory agencies do not have land use authority and must rely on local jurisdictions to implement major elements of air quality attainment plans. Discuss the effects on-road and off-road mobile emissions have on our non-attainment status.
2. Identify the major pollutants of concern, the sources of these air pollutants and the health effects to the public of exposure to concentrations above health based ambient air quality standards. Identify where sensitive receptors are located throughout the Plan area and the adjacent land uses.
3. Estimate ozone precursor and particulate matter (PM10) emissions resulting from on-road mobile sources at buildout of the Plan area.
4. Qualitatively evaluate the potential local and regional air quality impacts resulting from open outdoor burning of permissive and illegal material. Provide a sample estimate of the amount of emissions that can be expected from one legal vegetative outdoor fire. Discuss the types of and severity of impacts that can occur to adjacent land uses or residences from open burning, especially on residential lot sizes under one acre. Discuss the impacts to the Plan area from controlled prescribed burns from state and federal agencies.
5. Estimate the amount of daily emissions that could be expected from fireplaces

and woodstoves under a worst case scenario.

6. Provide a qualitative analysis of the type and quantity of construction related emissions that would be expected from a typical development and how they can have localized and regional impacts.
7. Qualitatively evaluate the potential impacts from Toxic Air Contaminants (TAC), their sources and potential health effects. Identify the location of industrial land uses within the proposed Plan area that could have sources of TACs, and the adjacent existing and proposed land uses included in the Plan.
8. Qualitatively evaluate all land uses adjacent to proposed industrial uses for land use compatibility conflicts. Identify any existing or proposed school locations adjacent to land uses that could result in toxic air contaminants or nuisance complaints (i.e., gas stations, dry cleaners).
9. A carbon monoxide hotspots analysis should be prepared for the I-80 / Foresthill Road area if the traffic study indicates any effected intersections will operate at or below a level of service E. The District should be contacted to discuss the Caline model input variables prior to conducting the analysis.
10. A qualitative analysis should be provided how buildout of the Plan area will affect the regions' ability to attain health based ambient air quality standards by 2005 as required by the State Implementation Plan. Describe the implications to the region and the County if these standards are not attained.
11. Once the air quality impacts have been identified, an analysis of the adequacy of the proposed policies and implementation measures contained in the Plan to mitigate these impacts should be provided. Additional policies and implementation measures should be proposed as necessary to reduce potentially significant impacts.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at (530) 889-7131.

[T:\APC\DV\CEQA\Foresthill\fdcpnop.wpd]

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
NEVADA-YUBA-PLACER RANGER UNIT
13760 Lincoln Way
Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 823-4904

Dean Prigmore
Placer County Planning Department
11414 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

October 30, 2001

Dean,

I have reviewed the Foresthill Divide Community Plan Notice of Preparation (NOP), SCH # 2001092094, and have the following comments:

1. As stated in CDF's mission, CDF "*...protects and enhances forest, range, and watershed values which provide social, economic, and environmental benefits to its rural and urban citizens."* Much of the area within the Community Plan is site I and II timberland. In keeping with the Departments mission, we would support the protection of this timberland rather than a change to some other use.

2. Zoning of parcels to allow more development needs to include provisions to offset the need for more fire protection for those developed parcels. The Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit Prefire Management Plan has identified the Foresthill area with a high hazardous fuel load. Future development should include, as part of the Public Resources Code 4290 requirements, permanent mitigations to reduce fuels around developed areas (shaded fuel breaks) and plan for defensible space.

3. Page 11 of the Initial Study states that small scale commercial timber harvest still occurs in the Plan area, and is likely to occur in the future. Please note that both Sierra Pacific Industries and Lone Star Timber Partners II own considerable land within the Plan area. Both of these landowners represent large commercial timberland owners. I would submit that both large and small-scale timber harvests have occurred and are likely to occur in the future. A change in zoning portions of the Plan area to allow more development adjacent to commercial timberland may result in conflict between adjacent landowners over land use.

If you have any questions regarding my comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Tony Clarabut
Unit Chief

By KELLY C. KEENAN
Division Chief

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DISTRICT 3, SACRAMENTO AREA OFFICE – MS 41
P.O. BOX 942874
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October 23, 2001

01PLA0105
SCH#2001092094
Foresthill Divide Community Plan (EIAQ-3649)
Notice of Preparation of draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
03PLA080 PM 19.465

Lori Lawrence
Placer County Planning Department
11414 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Mrs. Lawrence:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Foresthill Divide Community Plan (FDCP). Our comments are as follows:

- The Transportation Section of the EIR should include an analysis of the intersections at the Foresthill/Auburn Ravine Interchange at Interstate 80, since these intersections are already congested at peak times, and all vehicle access to Foresthill must go through at least one of these intersections. It is noted that the proposed new high school in Foresthill, scheduled for the Year 2003, may decrease traffic demands at the Interchange.

Please provide Caltrans with a copy of the analysis of the intersections at the Foresthill/Auburn Ravine Interchange at Interstate 80 and the final FDCP. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Jennifer Hayes at (916) 324-6634.

Sincerely,

JEFFREY PULVERMAN, Chief
Office of Regional Planning

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region

Robert Schneider, Chair

Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for Environmental Protection

Gray Davis
Governor

Sacramento Main Office
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Phone (916) 255-3000 • FAX (916) 255-3015

2 October 2001

Dean Prigmore
Placer County Planning Department
11414 B Avenue
Auburn CA, 95603

NOTICE OF PREPRATION, FORESTHILL DIVIDE COMMUNITY PLAN, PLACER COUNTY

We have reviewed the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Foresthill Divide Community Plan State Clearinghouse # 2001092094 dated 25 September 2001. Placer County proposes the "Foresthill Divide Community Plan" (FDCP) to supersede the 1981 Foresthill General Plan. FDCP proposes to reduce residential development from 28,000 residents to 13,000 with fewer new subdivisions and/or lot creations.

Our concern with FDCP is that it would allow for both installation of new individual on-site septic tank-leaching systems and subdivision of land into new parcels based on inadequate design criteria for on-site domestic waste disposal systems.

Resolution No. 82-036 was adopted on 26 March 1982, by the Regional Board to waive WDRs for septic tank/leachfield systems with limitations. The limitations are that the project has county permit and county uses Regional Board Guidelines. We find the *Ordinance Governing Individual On-site Sewage Disposal Systems* Placer County Code Chapter 4. Subchapter 1. Section 4.45 does not meet the Regional Board *Guidelines for Waste Disposal From Land Developments (Guidelines)* and therefore poses a significant impact.

"The Plan area is characterized by excessive slopes (30% or greater), restrictive geological formations, and existing small parcel sizes in the town site of Foresthill, sewage disposal is an issue of primary concern." The county states that FDCP has included policies to address the area's limiting characteristics although none have been submitted to the Regional Board for review as required under Resolution No. 82-036 to waive WDRs for septic tank/leachfield systems for large developments. Given the county ordinance does not meet the *Guidelines* and no additional mitigation has been proposed, we believe that the FDCP threatens to degrade water quality.

The NOP mentions the potential to develop cumulative water quality impacts from the on-site septic tank systems, we suggest that high-density residential discharges can be mitigated with the development of effective community collection, treatment, and disposal systems.

We request that the county modify its ordinance to meet the *Guidelines* and submit proposed mitigation measures for new subdivisions and existing lots in the FDCP area as required by the *Guidelines.* We have included a copy of the Regional Board *Guidelines for Waste Disposal From Land Developments* and the *Information Needs for Waste Disposal from Land Developments* for your review and use.

If you have any questions, please call me at (916) 255-3054 or E-mail <lockwog@rb5s.swrcb.ca.gov>.

GEORGE W. LOCKWOOD, Area Engineer
Waste Discharge to Land Unit
Lower Sacramento River Watershed

Enclosures *GUIDELINES FOR WASTE DISPOSAL FROM LAND DEVELOPMENTS*
INFORMATION NEEDS FOR WASTE DISPOSAL FROM LAND DEVELOPMENTS

cc: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse, Sacramento
Jess Morehouse, Department of Health Services, Sacramento
Brad Banner, Placer County Environmental Health Department, Auburn

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

GUIDELINES FOR WASTE DISPOSAL FROM LAND DEVELOPMENTS *

In its June 1971 Interim Water Quality Control Plan, the Board included Guidelines for Land Development Planning. These Guidelines were substantially modified on the 15 December 1972 and re-titled *Guidelines for Waste Disposal From Land Developments*. The *Guidelines* that follow are substantially the same as those adopted in 1972 but contain changes based upon experience gained from working closely with local governmental agencies in the development of individual waste disposal ordinances.

Section 13260 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act requires any person discharging waste or proposing to discharge waste to file a report of the discharge containing such information as may be required by the Board. In the early 1950's, the Board waived the filing of reports for dischargers from individual sewage disposal systems in those counties having satisfactory ordinances of regulations. Traditionally, these individual discharges have been treated by septic tank-leaching systems.

The Water Quality Control Act requires local governmental agencies to notify the Board of the filing of tentative subdivision maps of applications for building permits involving six or more family units except where the waste is discharged to a community sewer system.

The Board believes that control of individual waste treatment and disposal system can best be accomplished by local County Environmental Health Departments if these departments are strictly enforcing an ordinance that is designed to provide complete protection to ground and surface waters and to the public health.

The following principals and policies will be applied by the Board in review of water quality factors related to land developments and waste disposal from septic tank-leaching systems:

1. There are great differences in the geology, hydrology, geography, and metrology of the 40 counties, which lie partially or wholly within the Central Valley. The criteria contained herein are considered to be applied to the Central Valley and pertain to: (a) all tentative maps filed after 15 December 1972, (b) all subdivisions of land made after 15 December 1972, and (c) all final maps for which tentative maps were filed prior to 15 December 1971. Local agencies and the Board may adopt and enforce more stringent regulations, which recognize particular local conditions that may be limiting to wastewater treatment and disposal.

2 The Board does not intend to preempt local authority and will support local authority to the fullest extent possible. Where local authority demonstrates the inability or unwillingness to

* Excerpt from the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan), Sacramento River Basin (5A), Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Basin (5B), San Joaquin Basin (5C), and Tulare Lake Basin (5D), adopted by the Regional Board on 25 July 1975.

adopt an ordinance compatible with these guidelines, the Board intends to withdraw its waiver concerning waste disposal from individual systems and will require each and every party proposing to discharge waste within that county to submit a Report of Waste Discharge as required by Section 13260 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act.

3 Evaluation of the capability of individual waste treatment systems to achieve continuous safe disposal of waste requires detailed local knowledge of the area involved. The experience and recommendations of local agencies will, therefore, be an important input to the information upon which the Board will base its decision.

4 There are many areas within the Central Valley that are not conducive to individual waste treatment and disposal systems. In these areas, connection to an adequate community sewerage system is the most satisfactory method of disposing of sewage. The Board believes that individual disposal systems should not be used where community system are available and that every effort should be made to secure public sewer extensions, particularly in urban areas. Where connection to a public sewer is not feasible and a number of residences are to be served, due consideration should be given to construction of a community sewage treatment and disposal system.

5 The installation of individual disposal system, especially in large numbers, creates discrete discharges which must be considered on an individual basis. The life of such disposal system may be quite limited. Failures, once they begin in an area, generally will occur on an area wide basis. Further, regular maintenance is important to successful operation of individual disposal systems. To assure continued protection of water quality, to prevent water pollution and to avoid the creation of public health hazards and nuisance conditions, a public entity [1/] shall be formed with powers and responsibilities defined herein for all subdivisions having 100 lots or more. Subdivisions with less than 100 lots, which threaten to cause water quality or public health problems, will also be required to form a public entity.

[1/] Public Entity – A local agency, as defined in the State of California Government Section 53090 et seq., which is empowered to plan, design, finance, construct, operate, maintain, and to abandon, if necessary, any sewerage system or the expansion of any sewerage system and sewage treatment facilities serving a land development. In addition, the entity shall be empowered to provide permits and to have supervision over the location, design, construction, operation, maintenance, and abandonment of individual sewage disposal systems within a land development, and shall be empowered to design, finance, construct, operate, and maintain any facilities necessary for the disposal of wastes pumped from individual sewage disposal systems and to conduct any monitoring or surveillance programs required for water quality control purposes. (Unless there is an existing public entity performing these tasks.)

CRITERIA FOR SEPTIC TANK – LEACHING SYSTEMS

The following criteria will be applied to assure continued preservation and enhancement of state waters for all present and anticipated beneficial uses, prevention of water pollution, health hazards, and nuisance conditions. These criteria prescribe conditions for waste disposals from septic tank-leaching systems for single-family residential units or the equivalent and do not preclude the establishment of more stringent criteria by local agencies of the Board. The Board may prohibit the discharge from septic tank-leaching systems, which do not conform to these criteria. Systems, which cannot meet the following criteria, may be allowed in selected areas if they are individually designed. The criteria may not be applicable in all cases to commercial or industrial developments.

The septic tank, absorption systems, and disposal area requirements for other than single-family residential units shall be based upon the current edition of the *Manual of Septic Tank Practice* or in accordance with methods approved by the Executive Officer. An adequate replacement area equivalent to at least the initial disposal area shall be required at the time of design of the initial installation and incompatible uses of the replacement area shall be prohibited.

Minimum Distances

The Board has determined the following minimum distances (in feet) should be followed in order to provide protection to water quality and/or public health:

Facility	Domestic Well	Public Well	Flowing Stream[1]	Drainage Course or Ephemeral Stream[2]	Cut or Fill Bank[3]	Property Line[4]	Lake or Reservoir[5]
Septic tank or sewer line	50	100	50	25	10	25	50
Leaching Field	100	100	100	50	4h	50	200
Seepage Pit	150	150	150	50	4h	75	200

[1] As measured from the line, which defines the limit of a 10-year frequency flood.
[2] As measured from the edge of the drainage course or stream
[3] Distance in feet equals four times the vertical height of the cut or fill bank. Distance is measure from the top of the bank.
[4] This distance shall be maintained when individual wells are to be installed and the minimum distance between waste disposal and wells cannot be assured.
[5] As measured from the high water line.

Minimum Criteria

1. The percolation rate[2/] in the disposal area shall not be slower that 60 minutes per inch, or not slower than 30 minutes per inch if seepage pits are proposed. The percolation rate shall not be faster than five minutes per inch unless it can be shown that a sufficient distance of soil is available to assure proper filtration.

2. Soil depth below the bottom of a leaching trench shall not be less than five feet, nor less than 10 feet below the bottom of a seepage pit.

3. Depth to anticipated highest level of groundwater below the bottom of a leaching trench shall not be less than five feet, nor less than 10 feet below the bottom of a seepage pit. Greater depths are required if soils do not provide adequate filtration.

4. Ground slope in the disposal area shall not be greater than 30 percent.

5. The minimum disposal area shall conform to the following:

Percolation Rate (minutes/inch)	Minimum Usable Disposal Area (sq ft)
41-60	12,000
21-40	10,000
11-20	8,000
Less than 10	6,000

6. Areas that are within the minimum distances, which are necessary to provide protection to water quality and/or public health, shall not be used for waste disposal. The following area are also considered unsuitable for the location of disposal systems or replacement areas:

   a. Areas within any easement, which is dedicated for surface or subsurface improvement.

   b. Paved areas.

   c. Areas not owned or controlled by property owners unless said area is dedicated for waste disposal purposes.

   d. Areas occupied or to be occupied by structures.

[2/] Determined in accordance with procedures contained in current U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare *Manual of Septic Tank Practice* or a method approved by the Executive Officer.

Implementation

1. The Board will review local ordinances for the control of individual waste disposal systems and will request local agencies to adopt criteria, which are compatible with or more stringent than these guidelines.

2. In those counties, which have adopted an ordinance compatible with these guidelines, the Board will pursue the following course of action for discharges from individual septic tank-leaching systems.

   a. Land developments consisting of less than 100 lots will be processed entirely by the county. Tentative maps for subdivisions involving six or more family units shall be transmitted to the Board along with sufficient information [3/] to clearly determine that the proposed development will meet the approved county ordinance. The Board along or the appropriate local authority may require a public entity if potential water quality or public health problems are anticipated

   b. Tentative maps for land developments containing100 lots or more shall be transmitted to the Board. The map shall be accompanied by a report of waste discharge and sufficient information to clearly demonstrate that the proposed development will meet these guidelines or the approved county ordinance. A public entity is required prior to any discharge of waste.

3. The Board will prohibit the discharge of wastes from land developments which threaten to cause water pollution, quality degradation, or the creation of health hazards of nuisance conditions. These guidelines will be used to evaluate potential water quality of health problems. In certain locations and under special circumstances the Board's Executive Officer may waive individual criteria or he may waive the formation of a public entity. Land developers are to be aware that a waiver by the Executive Officer is not binding on any location entity.

   Examples of these special circumstances would be:

   a. Short time, interim use of individual septic tank-leaching systems may be acceptable in areas which do not meet these guidelines if sufficient, dependable funding of community collection, treatment, and disposal is demonstrated and a plan and time schedule for implementation is being followed.

[3/] The Board's staff has developed a document entitled *Information Needs for Waste Disposal from Land Developments*. This document discusses the necessary reports, maps, etc., that must be submitted in order to evaluate proposed land developments.

b. A failure to meet the minimum criteria could be negated by other favorable conditions. For example, the installation of individual septic tank-leaching systems may be allowed in areas which cannot meet the minimum criteria in these guidelines if the disposal area is increased sufficiently to allow for special design systems [4/] that have been shown to be effective in similar areas.

4. Severe impact on water quality has resulted from improper storm drainage and erosion control. Land developers must provide plans for the control of such runoff from initial construction up to complete build-out of the development.

5. The disposal of solid waste can have an impact on water quality and public health. Land developers must submit a plan which conforms to the regional or county master plan and contains adequate provisions for solid waste disposal for complete build-out of the development.

6. The disposal of septic tank sludge is an important part of any area wide master plan for waste disposal. Land developers must submit a plan which conforms to the regional or county master plan and contains adequate provisions for solid waste disposal for complete build-out of the development.

7. The responsibility for the timely submittal of information necessary for the board of the appropriate local authority to determine compliance with these guidelines rests with persons submitting proposals for development or discharge. For those development which are to be submitted to the Board, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act provides that no person shall initiate any new discharges of wastes prior to filing a report of waste discharge and prior to (1) issuance of the waste discharge requirements, (2) the expiration of 120 days after submittal of an adequate report of waste discharge, or (3) the issuance of a waiver by the Regional Board.

8. A report of waste discharge which does not provide the information required by these guidelines is an inadequate report. The 120-day time period does not begin until an adequate report has been submitted. Thus, to avoid extensive delay, every effort should be made to comply with these guidelines at the earliest possible date during formulation of proposals.

[4/] Special design systems will be accepted for review from registered engineers, geologist, or sanitarians who are knowledgeable and experienced in the field of septic tank-leaching system design and installation. These systems will include at least a 100% replacement disposal area. These systems shall be installed under the supervision of the designer, the public entity responsible, and the local health department.

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

INFORMATION NEEDS FOR WASTE DISPOSAL FROM LAND DEVELOPMENTS

At a public hearing on 15 December 1972, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, adopted *Guidelines For Waste Disposal From Land Developments*. The Guidelines have been incorporated into the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Valley.[1] The Guidelines contain a description of how the Board will evaluate waste disposal from land developments especially with regard to the installation of individual septic tank leaching systems.

Contained herein is a description of the information which must be supplied to enable the Board's staff to determine if the proposed development conforms to the Guidelines. The information should be submitted along with the tentative map to the local planning agency. The planning agency will transmit this information and the tentative map to the Regional Board and to the local health department. It is suggested that local planning agencies require the submittal of such information along with a preliminary map to a subdivision review committee prior to submittal of a tentative map.

The following information needs have been developed with regard to developments which propose individual waste disposal systems. Much of this information may also be needed if the developer proposes to build a community collection and treatment system. In such case, the developer must submit a report of waste discharge to the Regional Board.

Existing Conditions

The report must contain sufficient information describing the physical environment of the development to allow the Regional Board to evaluate the effect of waste disposal and associated construction activities on ground and surface waters. It is expected that the developer will make use of locally available data to develop this report. The amount of testing to be done on each subdivision will vary depending on the area involved. In general, the frequency of testing will be left to the discretion of the engineer. Sufficient information must be available to generally categorize the development according to controlling criteria in the Guidelines. Local requirements may require subsequent testing of certain parameters on each lot for purposes of designing treatment and disposal systems.

In certain areas, the Board may waive the submittal of some of the following material. In general, however all items should be considered and those not applicable so noted. The attached form together with the tentative subdivision or land development map and certification will generally suffice.

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[1] The Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River Basin (5A), Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Basin (5B), San Joaquin River Basin (5C), and the Tulare Lake Basin (5D) was adopted by the Regional Board on 25 July 1975.

Proposed Development Plan

A. Show extent of development including all existing, currently proposed, and contemplated future land developments for area and immediately adjacent areas. If development is to be staged, show extent of each stage and expected time for implementation.

B. If sewage disposal is to be by individual system, provide the following data for each lot as determined by representative testing within the development.

1. Percolation rates (min/in)

    a. Describe and show location of percolation tests.

2. Soils and geology

    a. Show depth of soil to rock or first impervious layer.

    b. Evaluate grain size distribution, organic content, presence of swelling clays, etc.

    c. Show location and extent of all rock outcrops, and if limestone is present, discuss the possibility of solution cavities serving as conduits to carry effluent into water supplies.

    d. Define geological hazards as they relate to waste disposal including degree and nature of fracturing and weathering and discuss the possibility of fractures serving as conduits to carry effluent into water supplies.

    e. Show depth and distribution of impervious layers including slope and direction of these layers.

    f. Present information used to compile soils data (include Soil Conservation Service appraisal where applicable).

3. Slope

    a. Show slope of existing ground surface.

    b. Show location of all cut or fill banks over two feet in height and designate area not available for waste disposal.

4. Available disposal area

    a. Show the total available disposal area that can be reached by gravity for each lot or proposed discharge.

5. Ground water

    a. Show depth to seasonal high groundwater and discuss anticipated and/or historic high level.

b. Indicate direction of movement.

c. Discuss recharge sources and amounts in areas where they may be a problem.

d. Submit data on chemical and/or bacteriological quality.

e. Show location of marshy areas and springs.

f. Show location and identify use of all existing or proposed water wells, including those abandoned, both in development and on adjoining properties within 100 feet of development boundaries, and show areas not available for waste disposal.

6. Surface waters

a. Show location and extent of all flowing streams, drainage courses, ephemeral streams, canals, lakes, and reservoirs.

b. Discuss relationship to groundwater.

c. Discuss any flood hazards.

7. Climate

a. Describe annual precipitation showing storm and seasonal precipitation.

b. Describe evapotranspiration rates and show seasonal distribution.

Master Plan for Waste Disposal

Discuss plans for handling both liquid and solid wastes and the resulting impact on water quality at all stages of development.

1. Liquid Waste

a. Identify flows and characteristics of sewage and industrial wastes.

b. Discuss the changes in water quality that may be expected to occur as a result of waste discharges.

c. If individual systems are to be used, indicate why existing community systems were not used or why such a system was not constructed.

d. If installation of a community system is proposed at a later date, show that system can be economically installed, provide evidence of capability to finance and construct such a system.

e. Discuss the public entity and indicate maintenance and operation schedules of the individual system.

f. Show how disposal of septic tank pumpings will be accomplished.

2. Solid Waste

   a. Identify expected solid waste volumes and point of disposal.

   b. Discuss how, and by whom, the waste will be transported to the disposal site.

   c. If disposal is to an existing site, indicate that solid waste from the development will be accepted at the site, provide information on capability of the site to accommodate wastes and discuss the effect upon the life of the site.

Storm Drainage and Erosion Control Plan

A storm drainage and erosion control plan must be submitted with the tentative map which indicates:

1. Expected volumes, peak rates, characteristics, and other pertinent information concerning storm water runoff and dry weather drainage from both construction and ultimate development phases.

2. Adequate collection and treatment systems are, or will be, available as necessary to protect the water environment from any adverse effects.

3. Stabilization and/or erosion control of all cuts, fills, and other excavations or gradings by planting, raprapping, of other effective means that will prevent erosion.

4. Installation of adequate storm drainage facilities which will minimize the amount of silt, sand, and debris discharged to area receiving waters.

5. Stabilization of all storm water runoff channels by the installation of culverts, ripraps, or other effective means that will prevent erosion.

6. Scheduling of work so as to minimize erosion from weather conditions and the stabilization of work in progress against inclement weather conditions.

The Regional Board will prescribe requirements when necessary pertaining to waste discharges from land development or other construction and earth moving operations located in areas having a high potential for soil erosion and resultant siltation problems affecting water quality and water use.

Certification

The engineer or person in direct responsible charge and the person or corporation possessing ownership of the proposed development shall provide the following certification:

I hereby certify to the best of my belief that the land development known as_____

_____

has been designed in accordance with *Guidelines* established by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on 25 July 1975.

_____
Registered Civil Engineer

Certification No. _____

Date _____

I hereby certify to the best of my belief that any restrictions, requirements, or orders of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, shall be made a part of the deeds, covenants, and restrictions for each lot sold in the land development known as _____

_____.

_____
Name

_____
Title

_____
Company

_____
Date

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED IN GUIDELINES

Abandoned Well

A well whose original purpose and use has been permanently discontinued or which is in such a state of disrepair that it cannot be used for its original purpose. If an abandoned well has been properly destroyed so that it will not produce water nor act as a conduit for the movement of water, it will not be subject to minimum criteria in the Guidelines

Community Sewerage System

A piped collection system which delivers sanitary wastes from a number of dwelling, business, commercial, etc., units to one or more wastewater treatment plants. The community sewerage system is normally under the jurisdiction of a public entity and operates under waste discharge requirements issued by the Regional Board.

Disposal Area

The area to be used for installation of leaching systems (normally trenches or seepage pits) from septic tanks.

Drainage Course

A depression in the ground surface that normally carries water only during and shortly after a rainfall.

Ephemeral Stream

A stream which has a surface flow of water only for a limited period of time.

Flowing Stream

A stream which maintains a surface flow during all or most of the year.

Ground Water

The water in the zone of saturation.

Impervious Layer

A bed or lens of fine grained soil or cemented material that retards the downward movement of fluids.

Individual Disposal System

A collection system and wastewater treatment and disposal facility for individual dwellings, business, commercial, etc., units. Normally septic tanks - leaching systems used for individual disposal.

Minimum Usable Disposal Area

The minimum area that must be available on a lot to dispose of waste from septic tank – leaching systems.

Porosity

Percentage of voids in the dry material.

Report of Waste Discharge

A Report required under Section 13260 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

Rock

Cemented or compacted sediments or crystalline material having a porosity of less than 15%.

Soil

Granular or weathered material having a porosity greater that 15%.

REPORT TO REGIONAL BOARD

CONCERNING LAND DIVISIONS NOT TO BE SERVED BY A SEWERAGE SYSTEM

I. Subdivision Name

a. Location to nearest ¼ section:

b. Owner: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

II. Date of Submittal: _____

III. Acres in Subdivision _____; Number of parcels or lots _____;

Smallest parcel or lot size _____.

IV. Adjacent Subdivision Information

Tract or Parcel Map No.	Date Submitted to Local Advisory Agency	No. of Parcels or Lots	Smallest Parcel or Lot Size
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____

V. Soil Conditions

a. Percolation Rates (Min/in) No. Tests Performed _____

Maximum _____ Minimum _____ Average _____

b. Soil Type (Unified and U.P.C., or texture description)

Average Condition _____; Extreme Condtion _____

c. Test Hole Depths (ft.) Max. _____ Min. _____ Average _____

Were restrictive barriers encountered in any test holes? Yes _____ No _____

d. Slope (%) in Disposal Area Max. _____ Min. _____ Avg. _____

e. Type of Proposed Disposal System: Pits _____; Trenches _____; Other _____.

VI. Ground Water

a. Depth to ground water within the area (ft.) _____.

b. Source of supply water – Individual Wells _____;

Water Company Name _____.

VII. General Remarks

a. What is the distance to an existing or proposed public or community sewerage facility in area:

Distance: _____ Existing: _____ Proposed: _____

b. Are there any unique conditions associated with this development which may affect water quality?

Explain: _____

_____

_____

VIII. Certification

County Concurrence

To the best of my knowledge, the foregoing information is an accurate and complete evaluation of this land division map number _____.

By: _____

Title: _____

Agency: _____

Date: _____

Regional Board Response is necessary by (date) _____.

_____

_____

Recommended Approval: _____

Additional information requested (form incomplete): _____

Complete subdivision information submittal is necessary: _____

By: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE *of* PLANNING AND RESEARCH

State Clearinghouse

Gray Davis
GOVERNOR

Steven A. Nissen
DIRECTOR

Notice of Preparation

September 25, 2001

To: Reviewing Agencies

Re: Foresthill Divide Community Plan
SCH# 2001092094

Attached for your review and comment is the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Foresthill Divide Community Plan draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Responsible agencies must transmit their comments on the scope and content of the NOP, focusing on specific information related to their own statutory responsibility, within 30 days of receipt of the NOP from the Lead Agency. This is a courtesy notice provided by the State Clearinghouse with a reminder for you to comment in a timely manner. We encourage other agencies to also respond to this notice and express their concerns early in the environmental review process.

Please direct your comments to:

Dean Prigmore
Placer County Planning Department
11414 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

with a copy to the State Clearinghouse in the Office of Planning and Research. Please refer to the SCH number noted above in all correspondence concerning this project.

If you have any questions about the environmental document review process, please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Project Analyst, State Clearinghouse

Attachments
cc: Lead Agency

Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base

SCH# 2001092094
Project Title Foresthill Divide Community Plan
Lead Agency Placer County Planning Department

Type NOP Notice of Preparation
Description Proposed Foresthill Divide Community Plan intended to supersede the 1981 Foresthill General Plan.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Dean Prigmore
Agency Placer County Planning Department
Phone 530-889-7470 **Fax**
email
Address 11414 B Avenue
City Auburn **State** CA **Zip** 95603

Project Location

County Placer
City Auburn
Region
Cross Streets Foresthill Road
Parcel No.
Township 14/15N **Range** 10/11E **Section** **Base** MDB

Proximity to:

Highways
Airports
Railways
Waterways American River and various reservoirs, streams, creeks
Schools Foresthill Divide Elementary and Middle Schools
Land Use

Project Issues Aesthetic/Visual; Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Drainage/Absorption; Flood Plain/Flooding; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Geologic/Seismic; Noise; Population/Housing Balance; Public Services; Recreation/Parks; Schools/Universities; Septic System; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Wetland/Riparian; Wildlife; Growth Inducing; Landuse; Cumulative Effects

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Department of Conservation; Department of Forestry and Fire Protection; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Reclamation Board; Department of Water Resources; Department of Fish and Game, Region 2; Native American Heritage Commission; State Lands Commission; Caltrans, District 3; Department of Housing and Community Development; Caltrans, Division of Transportation Planning; Regional Water Quality Control Bd., Region 5 (Sacramento)

Date Received 09/25/2001 **Start of Review** 09/25/2001 **End of Review** 10/24/2001

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.

NOP Distribution List ★

County: Placer **SCH#** 2001092094

Resources Agency

- ■ **Resources Agency**
  Nadell Gayou
- ☐ **Dept. of Boating & Waterways**
  Bill Curry
- ☐ **California Coastal Commission**
  Elizabeth A. Fuchs
- ▦ **Dept. of Conservation**
  Ken Trott
- ▦ **Dept. of Forestry & Fire Protection**
  Allen Robertson
- ▦ **Office of Historic Preservation**
  Hans Kreutzberg
- ■ **Dept of Parks & Recreation**
  Resource Mgmt. Division
- ▦ **Reclamation Board**
  Pam Bruner
- ☐ **S.F. Bay Conservation & Dev't. Comm.**
  Steve McAdam
- ▦ **Resources Agency**
  Nadell Gayou
  Dept. of Water Resources

Health & Welfare

- ☐ **Health & Welfare**
  Wayne Hubbard
  Dept. of Health/Drinking Water

Food & Agriculture

- ☐ **Food & Agriculture**
  Tad Bell
  Dept. of Food and Agriculture

Fish and Game

- ☐ **Dept. of Fish & Game**
  Scott Flint
  Environmental Services Division
- ☐ **Dept. of Fish & Game 1**
  Donald Koch
  Region 1
- ▨ **Dept. of Fish & Game 2**
  Banky Curtis
  Region 2
- ☐ **Dept. of Fish & Game 3**
  Robert Floerke
  Region 3
- ☐ **Dept. of Fish & Game 4**
  William Laudermilk
  Region 4
- ☐ **Dept. of Fish & Game 5**
  Don Chadwick
  Region 5, Habitat Conservation Program
- ☐ **Dept. of Fish & Game 6**
  Gabrina Gatchel
  Region 6, Habitat Conservation Program
- ☐ **Dept. of Fish & Game 6 I/M**
  Tammy Allen
  Region 6, Inyo/Mono, Habitat Conservation Program
- ☐ **Dept. of Fish & Game M**
  Tom Napoli
  Marine Region

Independent Commissions

- ☐ **California Energy Commission**
  Environmental Office
- ■ **Native American Heritage Comm.**
  Debbie Treadway
- ☐ **Public Utilities Commission**
  Andrew Barnsdale
- ■ **State Lands Commission**
  Betty Silva
- ☐ **Governor's Office of Planning & Research**
  State Clearinghouse Planner
- ☐ **Colorado River Board**
  Gerald R. Zimmerman
- ☐ **Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA)**
  Lyn Barnett
- ☐ **Office of Emergency Services**
  John Rowden, Manager
- ☐ **Delta Protection Commission**
  Debby Eddy
- ☐ **Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy**
  Paul Edelman

Dept. of Transportation

- ☐ **Dept. of Transportation 1**
  IGR/Planning
  District 1
- ☐ **Dept. of Transportation 2**
  Vicki Roe
  Local, Development Review,
  District 2
- ▨ **Dept. of Transportation 3**
  Jeff Pulverman
  District 3
- ☐ **Dept. of Transportation 4**
  Jean Finney
  District 4
- ☐ **Dept. of Transportation 5**
  Lawrence Newland
  District 5
- ☐ **Dept. of Transportation 6**
  Marc Birnbaum
  District 6
- ☐ **Dept. of Transportation 7**
  Stephen J. Buswell
  District 7
- ☐ **Dept. of Transportation 8**
  Mike Sim
  District 8
- ☐ **Dept. of Transportation 9**
  Caroline Yee for Kate Walton
  District 9
- ☐ **Dept. of Transportation 10**
  Chris Sayre
  District 10
- ☐ **Dept. of Transportation 11**
  Lou Salazar
  District 11
- ☐ **Dept. of Transportation 12**
  Aileen Kennedy
  District 12

Business, Trans & Housing

- ▦ **Housing & Community Development**
  Cathy Creswell
  Housing Policy Division
- ☐ **Caltrans - Division of Aeronautics**
  Sandy Hesnard
- ☐ **California Highway Patrol**
  Lt. Julie Page
  Office of Special Projects
- ▦ **Dept. of Transportation**
  Ron Helgeson
  Caltrans - Planning
- ☐ **Dept. of General Services**
  Robert Sleppy
  Environmental Services Section

Air Resources Board

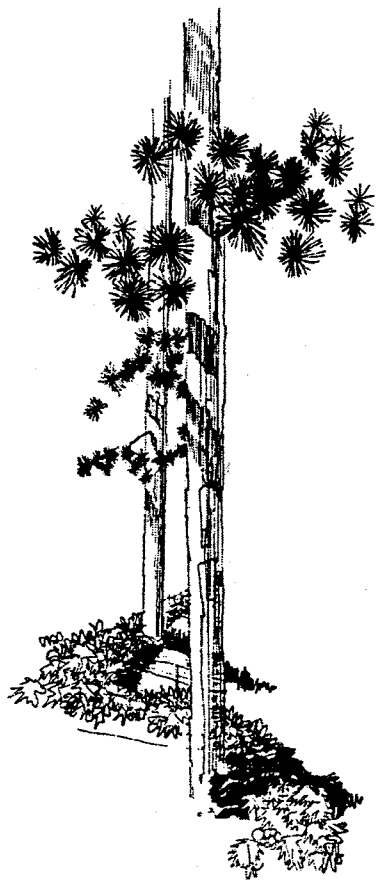
- ☐ Airport Projects
  Jim Lerner
- ☐ Transportation Projects
  Ann Geraghty
- ☐ Industrial Projects
  Mike Tollstrup

- ☐ **California Integrated Waste Management Board**
  Sue O'Leary
- ☐ **State Water Resources Control Board**
  Diane Edwards
  Division of Clean Water Programs
- ☐ **State Water Resources Control Board**
  Greg Frantz
  Division of Water Quality
- ☐ **State Water Resouces Control Board**
  Mike Falkenstein
  Division of Water Rights
- ☐ **Dept. of Toxic Substances Control**
  CEQA Tracking Center

Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)

- ☐ **RWQCB 1**
  Cathleen Hudson
  North Coast Region (1)
- ☐ **RWQCB 2**
  Environmental Document Coordinator
  San Francisco Bay Region (2)
- ☐ **RWQCB 3**
  Central Coast Region (3)
- ☐ **RWQCB 4**
  Jonathan Bishop
  Los Angeles Region (4)
- ■ **RWQCB 5S**
  Central Valley Region (5)
  - ☐ **RWQCB 5F**
    Central Valley Region (5)
    Fresno Branch Office
  - ☐ **RWQCB 5R**
    Central Valley Region (5)
    Redding Branch Office
- ☐ **RWQCB 6**
  Lahontan Region (6)
  - ☐ **RWQCB 6V**
    Lahontan Region (6)
    Victorville Branch Office
- ☐ **RWQCB 7**
  Colorado River Basin Region (7)
- ☐ **RWQCB 8**
  Santa Ana Region (8)
- ☐ **RWQCB 9**
  San Diego Region (9)

Initial Study
Foresthill Divide
Community Plan



Prepared for:
Placer County Planning Department
Lead Agency

Prepared by:
Quad Knopf

September, 2001

Quad Knopf

00087

Initial Study
Foresthill Divide Community Plan
Placer County

I. BACKGROUND

TITLE OF PROJECT: Foresthill Divide Community Plan

EIAQ # 3649

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose and Authority

The proposed project for which this Initial Study has been prepared is the Draft Foresthill Divide Community Plan (FDCP) and rezoning. This document has been prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code 21000 *et. seq.* This Initial Study has been prepared concurrently with the completion of the Draft FDCP. The County of Placer will act as Lead Agency for this project pursuant to CEQA.

1.2 Determination

On this basis of the Initial Study, it has been determined that due to the potential for significant environmental impacts, a Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared, pursuant to §15064 of the CEQA Guidelines.

2.0 PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

2.1 Location

The Foresthill Divide Community Plan area is located within the County of Placer, California, as shown in Figures 2-1 and 2-2. The Plan area comprises approximately 109 square miles located in the foothills of the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, as shown in Figure 2-3. The Plan area is generally bounded by:

- North Fork of the American River, Shirttail Canyon, the watershed of Sugar Pine Reservoir, and Elliot Ranch Road on the west and north.
- West branch of El Dorado Canyon on the east
- North Fork of the Middle Fork American River and the Middle Fork American River on the south.

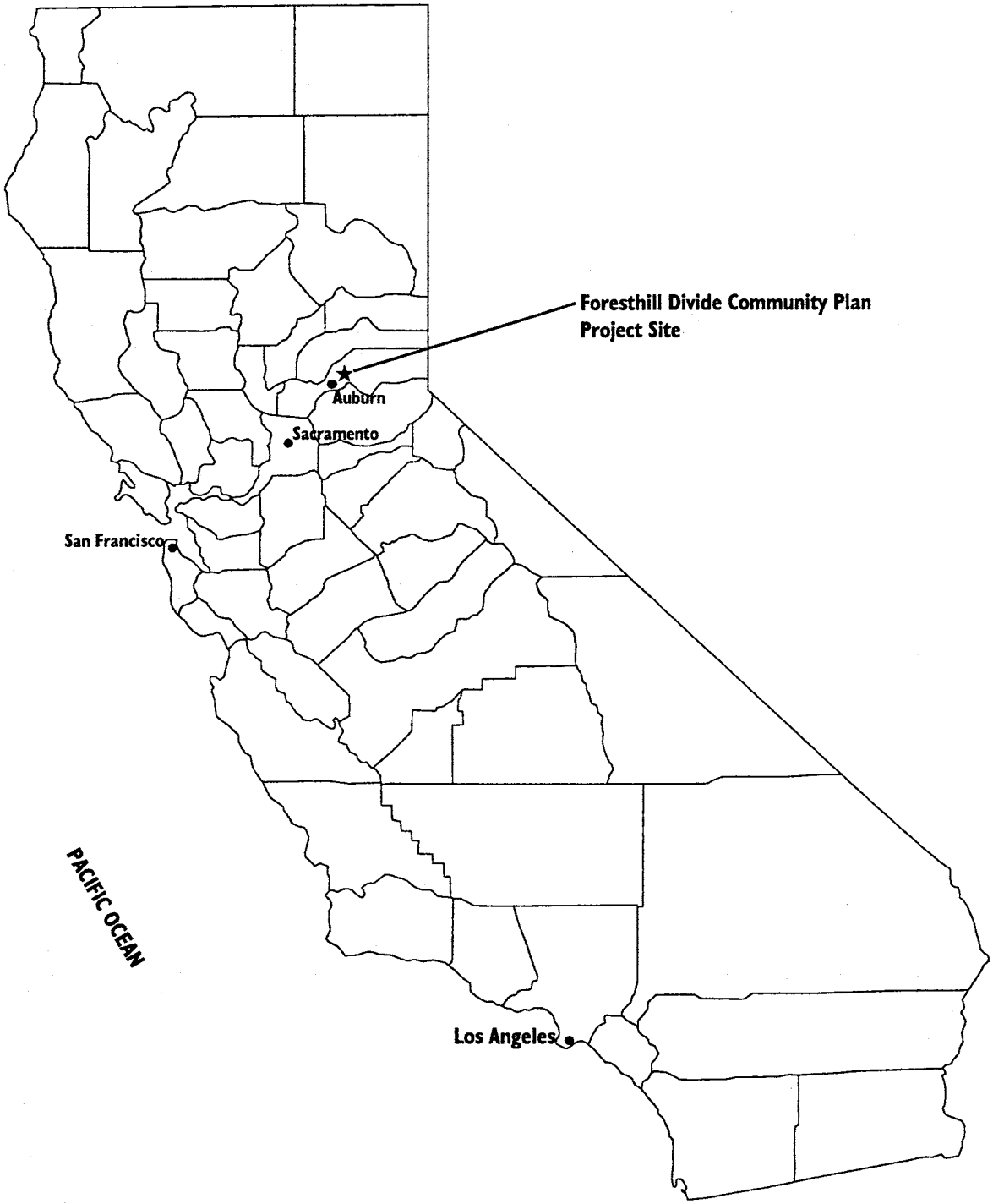
2.2 Description

The project initiated by the County of Placer is referred to as the proposed "Foresthill Divide Community Plan" and is intended to supersede the 1981 Foresthill General Plan. The FDCP provides an opportunity to comprehensively address issues facing the community and to responsibly and proactively plan for the next 20 years. The FDCP has been developed by the Foresthill Divide Community Plan Team, consisting of Foresthill Divide residents appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Excerpts from the Vision Statement developed for the community planning process describe some of the unique attributes of Foresthill and help to clarify the overall purpose and direction of planning efforts, as follows:

> The community of Foresthill is located in a special position; between the outer edges of the rapidly-growing population centers in the Sacramento Valley and public forests and park lands. The community rests atop a broad, relatively flat ridge between the two deep river canyons of the North Fork American River and the Middle Fork American River. Foresthill also serves as a primary entry point into the western central Sierra Nevada mountains . . . Creating more local employment opportunities without substantially degrading the scenic, forested environment of the Divide will be an on-going challenge for the residents of the Plan area . . .The Foresthill Divide will likely not have a future population large enough to support major new commercial enterprises. Small retail stores, personal services businesses, professional offices, restaurants and similar uses can be expected to be developed within the downtown area which will continue to provide for the daily needs of the residents and visitors while expanding upon the original small town character of the historic area. The historic downtown district will remain as a cherished focal point of the Plan area and will be a source of pride for the community. The traditionally industrial areas near the historic Foresthill townsite will be redeveloped to provide new employment opportunities for residents of the Divide. Expanded tourist and outdoor recreation-oriented businesses will continue to develop as a consequence of the community's unique location and proximity to public lands. The increased emphasis on outdoor recreation on the public lands surrounding the Foresthill community and the increasing population growth west of the Divide will have substantial effects on the residents of the Plan area. Future growth on the Foresthill Divide should reflect an awareness of and consistency with this vision.

In addition to the Vision Statement, 14 General Goals have been developed to help guide planning efforts and describe the project. These include:

1. To develop an interconnected trail system for hiking, biking and equestrian uses extending from the confluence of the North and Middle Forks of the American River easterly to Sugar Pine Reservoir.

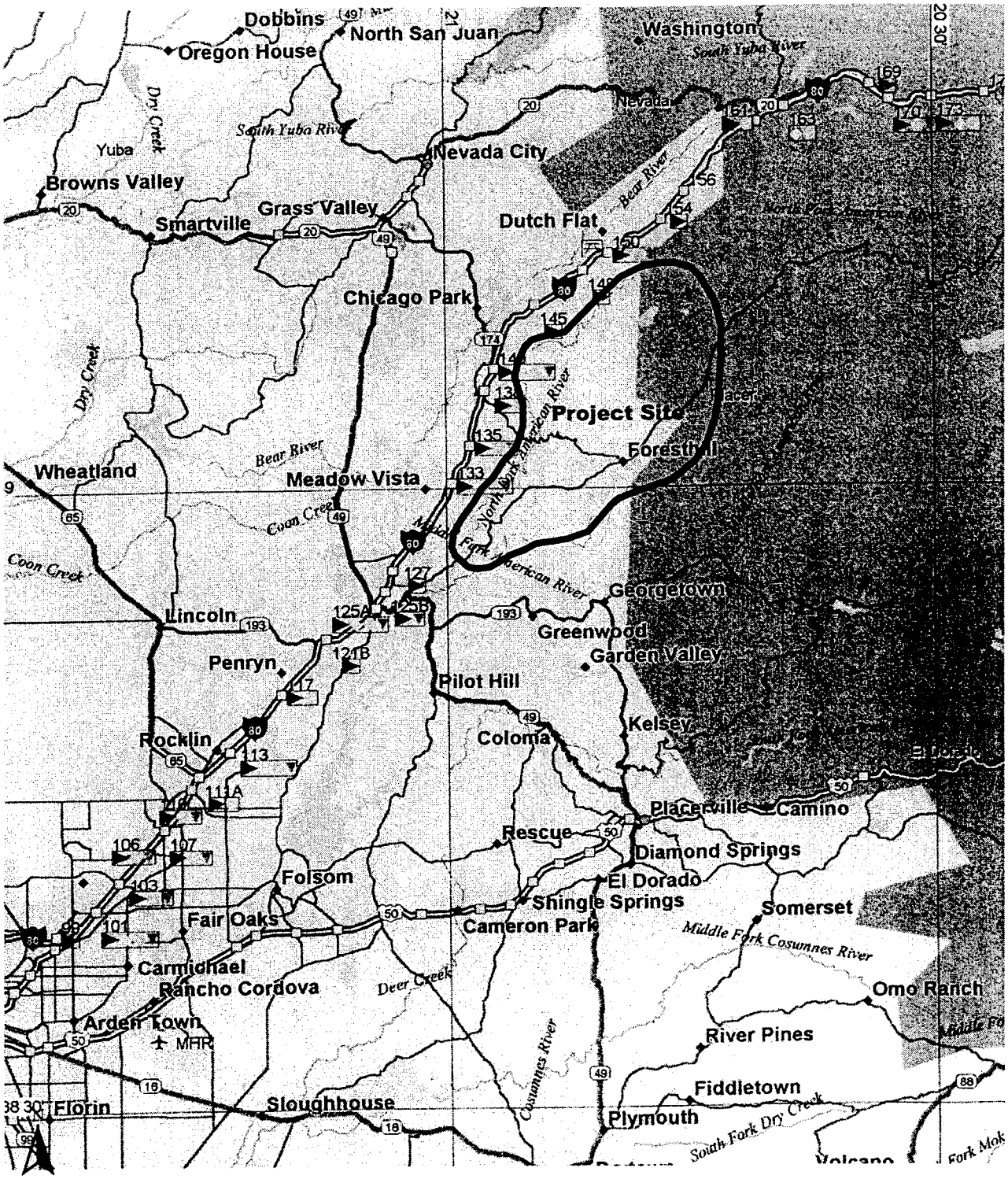


Source: Quad Knopf, 2000

Quad Knopf

Location Map

Figure 2-1

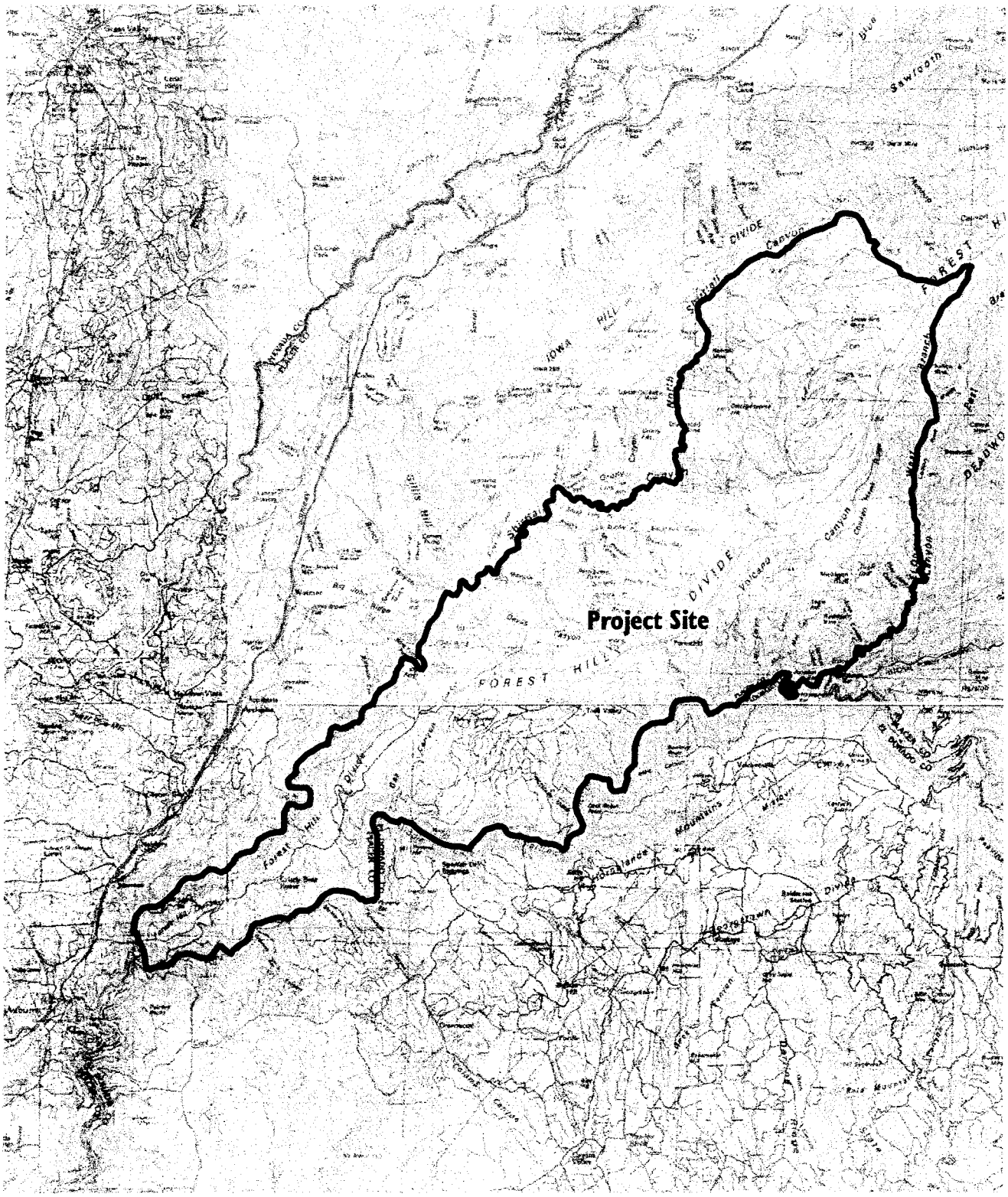


Source: DeLorme Street Atlas USA, 1998

Quad Knopf

Vicinity Map

Figure 2-2



Source: Quad Knopf, 2000

Quad Knopf

Project Area

Figure 2-3

2. To preserve the community's outstanding visual and aesthetic features, including significant vistas, woodlands, stream and riparian zones, ponds and lakes, and important wildlife habitat areas.
3. To protect the community against wildland fires, erosion, water quality degradation and localized flooding.
4. To conserve and protect as valuable community assets the natural, cultural, and historic resources of the Plan area.
5. To encourage mixed-use development within the principal commercial district (*i.e.* from the Foresthill Divide Middle School easterly along Foresthill Road to the Foresthill Elementary School) and within the historic downtown area.
6. To manage the land within the Plan boundaries as a limited and protected resource so that its future uses will be beneficial to the entire community.
7. To insure that future development on the Divide will reflect and maintain the forested residential character of the community.
8. To provide public facilities in a location that is central to the concentrations of population on the Divide to encourage the interaction of residents and a strong sense of community.
9. To provide for residential development which is reasonably integrated into the community rather than being physically isolated.
10. To ensure that public services and facilities are available to serve the needs created by both existing and future residents and visitors to the Divide.
11. To respect and protect existing agricultural uses and timberlands from residential encroachment.
12. To encourage and maintain access to public lands, and to protect the boundaries of public lands from residential encroachment.
13. To establish as a high priority for the community and the County the development of new employment opportunities and appropriate economic development.
14. To recognize that amendments to the Foresthill Divide Community Plan should be minimal until and unless circumstances in the area have changed so significantly that an update of the Plan is necessary; piecemeal amendments to the Plan should be discouraged.

The current Foresthill General Plan would allow for more than 28,000 residents on the Divide if every available parcel of land were to be subdivided to the maximum number of lots allowed. The FDCP concludes that recently-completed improvements to Foresthill Road can serve a total population of less than 12,000 without undesirable traffic congestion. The Draft Land Use Map (Figure 2-4) proposes a reduction in the maximum population density from 28,000± to 13,000±. The Foresthill Divide Community Plan and Land Use Map are based on the Vision Statement and General Goals presented above, the results of the Foresthill Community Survey, consideration of specific requests from a number of property owners, and comments furnished by residents and property owners who attended Town Hall meetings sponsored by the Community Plan Team and Placer County.

The FDCP consists of the following elements:

- Community Development Element, including Population and Housing, Land Use Plan, Community Design, Public Facilities and Parks and Recreation
- Resource Management Element, including Natural Resources/Conservation, Open Space, Cultural Resources, and Air Quality
- Transportation and Circulation Element

The FDCP also includes a land use and circulation plan for the Plan area. It assigns the following land use designations, as shown on Figure 2-4:

Medium Density Residential (8 dwelling units (DU)/acre)
Medium Density Residential (6 DU/acre)
Medium Density Residential (4 DU/acre)
Low Density Residential (1 DU/acre)
Rural Residential (1 DU/2.3 acres)
Rural Residential (1 DU/4.6 acres)
Rural Residential 1 DU/10 acres)
Ag/Timberland (1 DU/20 acres)
Ag/Timberland (1 DU/80 acres)
Ag/Timberland (1 DU/160 acres)
Canyon Mixed Use, Downtown Mixed Use, Mill Site Mixed Use
Development Reserve
Public Ownership
Private Ownership with Non-Residential Uses Permitted

An important new feature of the FDCP is the creation of several Mixed-Use Districts which will allow for many different activities to occur. The purpose of the Historic Downtown Mixed-Use District is to provide a resident population in the downtown area. Retail commercial uses, offices, public service buildings, and other traditional downtown businesses would be mixed with single-family and multiple-family residential uses (perhaps even within the same building). Another location on the Divide that receives special consideration in the FDCP is the old mill site at the west end of the historic downtown district. More than half of the old mill site will be utilized for the new high school, a new elementary school and a forest education facility. The balance will house job-generating businesses. This site requires careful planning to accommodate these existing and proposed new uses. The Canyon Mixed-Use district includes all of the land on the south side of Foresthill Road from its intersection with Mosquito Ridge Road west to the medical building near Worton's market, as well as parcels bordering Foresthill Road from the old mill site west to the Starlite Café. This district will provide for retail commercial, tourist commercial, multiple family residential, and other uses. These Mixed-Use Districts are one way to accomplish one of the primary goals of the FDCP: residential densities should be located near the core of the community. The FDCP also concentrates additional residential densities east of the historic downtown district to provide local traffic circulation throughout the "downtown" area.

The proposed project also includes rezoning of properties within the Plan area as necessary and required to achieve consistency with the proposed FDCP land use designations. Proposed zoning is shown in Figure 2-5.

FORESTHILL DIVIDE COMMUNITY PLAN
2001

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

LAND USE MAP DEVELOPED BY THE COMMUNITY PLAN TEAM BASED UPON THE LAND USE ASSUMPTIONS
6-07-2001
Population: 13,000 + - residents

LEGEND

- MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 8 DU/1AC.
- MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 6 DU/1AC.
- MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 4 DU/1AC.
- LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL 1 DU/1AC.
- RURAL RESIDENTIAL 1 DU/2.3AC.
- RURAL RESIDENTIAL 1 DU/4.6AC.
- RURAL RESIDENTIAL 1 DU/10AC.
- AG/TIMBERLAND 1 DU/20AC.
- AG/TIMBERLAND 1 DU/40AC.
- AG/TIMBERLAND 1 DU/80AC.
- AG/TIMBERLAND 1 DU/160AC.
- CANYON MIXED USE, DOWNTOWN MIXED USE, MILL SITE MIXED USE
- DEVELOPMENT RESERVE
- PUBLIC OWNERSHIP (PLACER COUNTY,SCHOOL DISTRICTS,FHPUD,USFS,BLM,BUREAU OF RECLAMATION,ETC.)
- PRIVATE OWNERSHIP WITH NON-RESIDENTIAL USES PREMITTED (TPZ,FORESTRY,INDUSTRIAL,ETC.)
- AC = ACRES
- DU = DWELLING UNITS

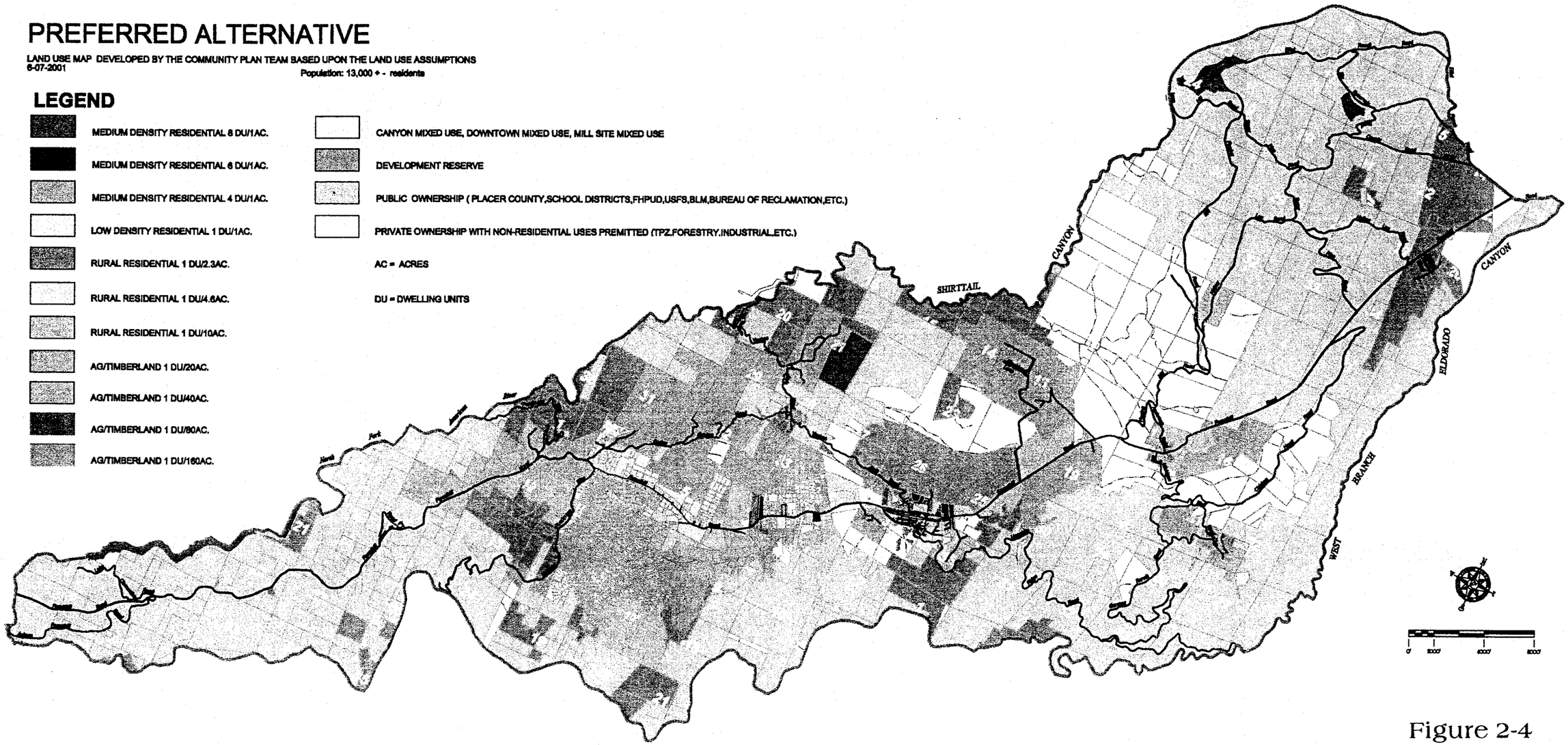


Figure 2-4

Foresthill Divide Community Plan

Recommended Zoning

- C-1-DC
- C-2-DH
- F-UP
- FOR-B-X 160 AC.MIN.
- IN-DC
- IN-DC-SP
- MILL MIXED USE (INP-DC)
- DOWNTOWN MIXED USE (C-1-DH/RS-DH)
- CANYON MIXED USE (C-2-DC/RS-DC)
- 0PEN SPACE
- RF
- RF-B-100
- RF-B-100 PD 0.44
- RF-B-43
- RF-B-43 PD 1.0
- RF-B-X 1 AC.MIN.
- RF-B-X 10 AC.MIN.
- RF-B-X 10 AC.MIN. PD 0.10
- RF-B-X 160 AC.MIN.
- RF-B-X 20 AC.MIN.
- RF-B-X 20 AC.MIN. PD 0.05
- RF-B-X 4.6 AC.MIN. PD 0.22
- RF-B-X 40 AC.MIN.
- RF-B-X 40 AC.MIN. PD 0.025
- RF-B-X 5 AC.MIN. PD 0.2
- RF-B-X 80 AC.MIN.
- RF-B-X 80 AC.MIN. PD 0.0125
- RF-MR-B-X 160 AC.MIN.
- RF-B-X 4.6 AC.MIN. PD 0.22
- RF-B-X 40 AC.MIN.
- RF-B-X 40 AC.MIN. PD 0.025**
- RF-B-X 5 AC.MIN. PD 0.2
- RF-B-X 80 AC.MIN.
- RF-B-X 80 AC.MIN. PD 0.0125
- RF-MR-B-X 160 AC.MIN.
- RF-SP-B-X 20 AC.MIN. PD 0.05
- RM-DL 4
- RM-DL 6
- RM-DL 8
- RS-A-B-40
- RS-B-43
- RS-B-X 1 AC.MIN.
- RS-B-X 1 AC.MIN.*
- RS-DH
- TPZ
- TPZ-DR

* Setbacks: Front: 20' Sides: 15' total, min. 5'(one story)
7.5' (two stories or more)
Rear: 10' (one story)
20' (two stories)

** If currently approved tentative maps are not recorded, the PD density shall revert to 0.025 when the tentative maps expire.

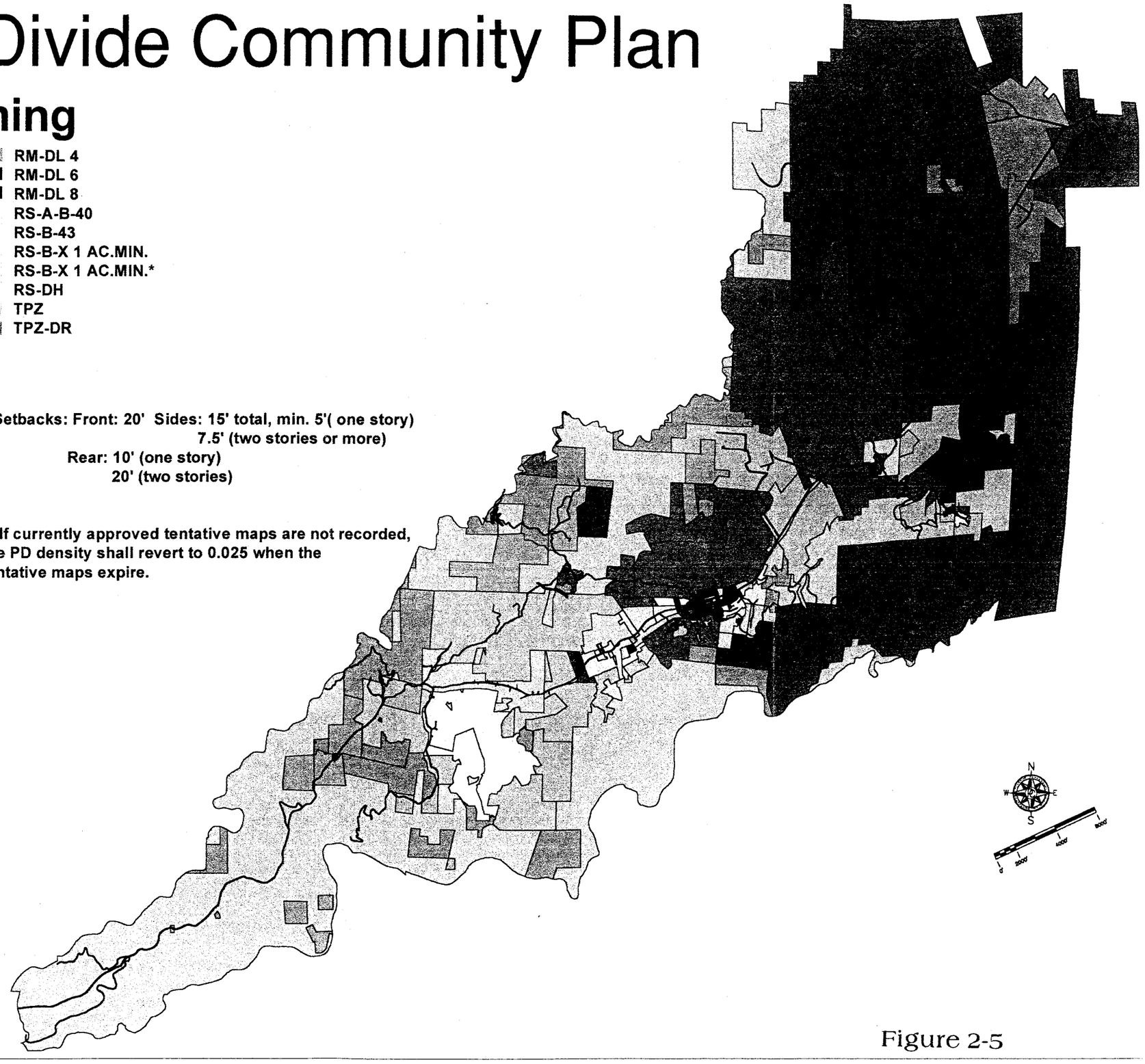


Figure 2-5

3.0 CHECKLIST FORM AND INITIAL STUDY

3.1 Project Title

Foresthill Divide Community Plan and Rezoning

3.2 Lead Agency Name and Address

Placer County Planning Department
11414 B Avenue
Auburn, California 95603

3.3 Contact Person and Phone Number

Dean Prigmore
Assistant Director of Planning
530-889-7470
530-889-7499 FAX
e-mail: dprigmor@placer.ca.gov

Michael Wells
Associate Planner
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3.4 Project Location

The Draft Foresthill Divide Community Plan (FDCP) includes the approximately 109 square mile Foresthill Divide Plan area in the foothills of the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The project area is generally bound by the North Fork of the American River to the north, the Middle Fork of the American River to the south, the confluence of these two rivers to the west, and Elliot Ranch Road to the east.

3.5 Project Sponsor's Name and Address

Placer County Planning Department
11414 B Avenue
Auburn, California 95603

3.6 General Plan Provisions

As described under Item 3.4 above, the proposed project includes the Foresthill Divide Plan area which is currently subject to the designations of the 1981 Foresthill General Plan. The FDCP proposes to replace and supersede the 1981 Foresthill General Plan.

The FDCP is one of twenty-two Community Plans within the unincorporated area of Placer County. As stated in the Placer County General Plan, "[b]ecause of the diverse geography and land uses within the county...individual community plans have been prepared within the framework of the overall county plan to address the

unique issues and concerns arising in the different unincorporated areas." The goals, policies and implementation programs of the FDCP are specific to the area, but must be consistent with the Placer County General Plan.

The Plan area is approximately twice the size of the area encompassed by the current Foresthill General Plan, and includes areas now subject to the 1994 Placer County General Plan and the 1981 Weimar/Clipper Gap/Applegate General Plan. It will supersede those plans for areas within the new FHDCP boundaries.

3.7 Zoning Provisions

Consistent with the land use designations of the Draft Community Plan, the Foresthill Divide Community Plan area is subject to the following zoning designations of the Placer County Zoning Ordinance:

Primary Zone Districts

INP = Industrial Park
C1 = Neighborhood Commercial
C2 = General Commercial
F = Farm
FOR = Forestry
IN = Industrial
O = Open Space
RF = Residential Forest
RS = Residential Single-Family
RM = Residential Multi-Family
TPZ = Timberland Production Zone
Mill Mixed-Use (INP-Dc)
Historic Downtown Mixed-Use (C1-Dh/RS-Dh)
Canyon Mixed-Use (C2-Dc/RS-Dc)

Combining Zone Districts

-Dh = Combining Design Historic
-Dc = Design Scenic Corridor
-UP = Combining Conditional Use Permit
-B = Combining Building Site (minimum lot size)
-Ag = Combining Agricultural
-MR = Combining Mineral Reserve
-PD = Combining Planned Residential Development
-SP = Combining Special Purpose
-DL = Combining Density Limitation
-DR = Combining Development Reserve

Consistent with California Planning and Zoning Law, zoning designations are concurrently proposed with the adoption of the FDCP to assure consistency with adopted land use designations, as shown in Figure 2-5.

3.8 Description of Project

For a detailed project description, see §2.2 of this Initial Study.

A Background Report has been prepared for the FDCP which describes existing conditions in the Plan area. It is referenced in this Initial Study as the FDCP Background Report.

3.9 Surrounding Land Uses and Setting

The majority of the Plan area is forested and/or part of the steeply sloping topography that slopes to the Middle and North Forks of the American River. Development is primarily concentrated in areas where it can be sustained, including Foresthill, the Todd's Valley Subdivision, Baker Ranch, Michigan Bluff, and Yankee Jim's areas. The large northeast portion of the Plan area consists of U.S. Forest Service Timberlands. Forestry uses with 20 to 160 acre minimum lot size requirements are located west of these Timberlands, and surround the Foresthill townsite. The westernmost portion of the Plan area consists of low density residential and rural residential uses, as well as public land owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and lands within the Auburn State Recreation Area operated by the California Department of Parks and Recreation under contract with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

3.10 Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.)

No additional public agencies whose discretionary approval is required have been identified. The lead agency is a County government, which has the discretionary authority to amend its land use documents and regulations. Portions of the Plan area are within the jurisdiction of the federal government (U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation [Auburn State Recreation Area]); these lands are not subject to the provisions of the FDCP.

II. EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

A. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers.

B. "Less Than Significant Impact" applies where the project's impacts are negligible and do not require any mitigation to reduce impacts.

C. "Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less than Significant Impact." The County, as lead agency, must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less-than-significant level (mitigation measures from Section IV, EARLIER ANALYSES, may be cross-referenced).

D. "Potentially Significant Impact " is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect is significant. If there are one more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

E. All answers must take account of the entire action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts [CEQA, Section 15063(a)(1)].

F. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration [Section 15063(c)(3)D)]. Earlier analyses are discussed in Section IV at the end of the checklist.

G. References to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans/community plans, zoning ordinances) should be incorporated into the checklist. Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should include a reference to the pages or chapters where the statement is substantiated. A source list should be attached, and other sources used, or individuals contacted, should be cited in the discussion.

H. This checklist has been adapted from the form in Appendix I of the State CEQA Guidelines, as amended effective September 19, 1994.

1. **LAND USE AND PLANNING: Would the proposal:**

a. Conflict with general plan/community plan/specific plan designation(s) or zoning, or policies contained within such plans?

Less Than Significant Impact

The project consists of replacement and supersedure of the 1981 Foresthill General Plan by the Foresthill Divide Community Plan (FDCP). The FDCP includes new or modified land use designations, goals and policies. Consistency with the Placer County General Plan will be maintained. Zoning will be amended as necessary to maintain consistency with the adopted Community Plan. Impacts are considered less than significant.

b. Conflict with applicable environmental plans or policies adopted by agencies with jurisdiction over the project?

Less Than Significant Impact

The County of Placer has jurisdiction over the majority of the Foresthill Divide. Scattered Forest Service lands and private timber holdings are present on the eastern half of the Plan area which are subject to Resource Management Plans (RMPs). Cooperative planning efforts have already been undertaken to eliminate the potential for conflict. Lands within the jurisdiction of the state or federal government (U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and Auburn State Recreation Area) are not subject to the provisions of the FDCP. Impacts are considered less than significant.

c. Be incompatible with existing land uses in the vicinity?

Less Than Significant Impact

By its nature, the FDCP aims to eliminate land use incompatibility through the application of land use designations, zoning, and sound planning principles. Special attention will be given to coordinating planning and land use efforts with Resource Management Plans (RMP) of surrounding National Forest lands. According to the *Placer County General Plan Background Report*:

> Because federal and state agencies are generally not subject to the policies and plans adopted by local governments such as Placer County, an understanding of the concerns of federal and state agencies is vital to ensure effective interjurisdictional cooperation and coordination during the County's planning process.

Comprehensive and cooperative planning efforts will ensure compatibility with existing land uses in the vicinity; therefore, the impact is considered less than significant.

d. Affect agricultural and timber resources or operations (e.g., impacts to soils or farmlands and timber harvest plans, or impacts from incompatible land uses)?

Potentially Significant Impact

Due primarily to its elevation, the Plan area does not have an extensive agricultural heritage. According to the Placer County Agricultural Commissioner, and as reported in the FDCP Background Report, a limited range of crops can survive in the 2,800 to 4,000 foot elevation range typical of the Plan area. These crops include walnuts, chestnuts, and apples. A small walnut orchard, a chestnut orchard, and scattered vineyards and back yard apple plantings represent the bulk of existing agricultural activities in the Plan area. Christmas tree farms operate successfully within the Plan area. Although some soils in the Plan area can be rocky and/or shallow, there are no inherent soil conditions that would prevent agricultural production. Rather, the lack of extensive irrigation infrastructure and availability of richer agricultural lands elsewhere in the county are primary factors behind the lack of agricultural activity in the area, as well as small existing parcel sizes in areas with soils suitable for agriculture. Special water rates are available for agricultural irrigation water. However, there has been some recent interest shown in limited wine grape production in the Plan area.

In the early 1900s, agriculture and timber played a dominant role in Placer County's economy. While agriculture and timber production are still important sectors of the economy, other industries such as manufacturing, recreation, and services have gained dominance.

The Plan area contains an interface between exclusive Placer County land use jurisdiction and the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), which is responsible for managing land uses and timber resources in the Tahoe National Forest. Additionally, the California Department of Forestry (CDF) has regulatory authority over timber harvest activities on privately held timber land under the Z'Berg Nejedly Forest Practices Act of 1973. Timber croplands represent approximately 33 percent of land within Placer County. Most of the timber croplands and lands under Timberland Production Zone (TPZ) are located east of Foresthill, although the Plan area contains more than 20 square miles of privately held timber land.

Small scale commercial timber harvest still occurs on private lands in the Plan area, and is likely to continue in the future. Commercial timber companies typically manage stands of timber to enhance production, while individual

property owners may be more interested in a one-time timber harvest to generate revenues or clear a building pad.

As stated in Item I(c), the community planning process aims to eliminate incompatible land uses and resulting impacts. The FDCP contains policies supporting the goal to "Encourage the retention of agricultural lands and provide for the long-term conservation of these lands whenever feasible," and to "Conserve Placer County's forest resources, enhance the quality and diversity of forest ecosystems, reduce conflicts between forestry and other uses, and encourage a sustained yield of forest products." The FDCP Background Report describes existing agricultural and timber resources in greater detail, and serves as the Environmental Setting for the Program EIR for the Community Plan. The FDCP is designed to be self-mitigating, and implementation of the FDCP will result in preservation and management of agricultural and timber resources. However, residential, commercial, tourist commercial and industrial development will result in a net reduction of those lands available for agricultural and/or silvicultural uses. Therefore, the impact is considered potentially significant.

e. Disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community (including a low-income or minority community)?

Less Than Significant Impact

The FDCP proposes infill and redevelopment of the Foresthill townsite to accommodate new development, and to enhance the rural forested nature and historical quality of the Plan area. The *Vision Statement* states:

> The historic downtown district will remain as a cherished focal point of the Plan area and will be a source of pride for the community. The traditionally industrial areas near the historic Foresthill townsite will be redeveloped to provide new employment opportunities for residents of the Divide.

The FDCP will not disrupt or divide a low-income or minority community; it will instead rejuvenate and enhance the local character and economy and promote a greater sense of harmony within the community. Impacts are considered less than significant.

f. Result in a substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area?

Potentially Significant Impact

The FDCP proposes to replace and supersede the Foresthill General Plan, including the Land Use Element. Alterations in land use and zoning

designations for the Plan area are a necessary and acceptable part of the comprehensive, 20-year planning effort, and changes in present land use will occur as properties are developed in accordance with the Plan. It is anticipated that most, if not all, potentially significant impacts associated with changes in land use and zoning designations will be mitigated to a level that is less than significant through mitigating policies included in the FDCP. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

2. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the proposal:

a. Cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections?

Less Than Significant Impact

The Placer County General Plan and the FDCP provide for services and land use designations necessary to serve existing and projected populations. According to the State of California *General Plan Guidelines*, "The general plan projects conditions and needs into the future as a basis for determining objectives." The argument can be made that the planning process accommodates official regional or local population projections through the provision of infrastructure and services. Alternatively, the argument can be made that the very provision of infrastructure, services, and land designated for the projected population can stimulate and encourage growth beyond official projections. As assumed by the FDCP Team, and published in the Foresthill Divide Community Plan Assumptions, population growth is expected to increase at a moderate rate of 2–4% per year during the 20-year time horizon of the Plan.

Available population data for the Foresthill Divide varies according to the source and the geographical area that it covers. Data from the 1990 U.S. Census for the Foresthill "Census Designated Place" shows a total population of 1,409 persons, and a total of 1,791 persons for 2000. However, the Plan area covers an area much larger than the Foresthill townsite and Todd's Valley Area, where the population is concentrated. Census Tract 202 roughly correlates with, but is larger than the Plan area; 1990 Census data assigned a population of 4,699 persons for this area, and the 2000 Census figure is 5,794. The "Regional Analysis District" used by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) for Foresthill is smaller than the Plan area, but does include the principal population and employment centers. The County of Placer estimates the current population of the Plan area to be 5,600 persons. In conjunction with the FDCP Team, the County has estimated projected populations through the year 2010.

The FDCP has the potential to accommodate projected growth, or induce new growth beyond official projections. The FDCP was prepared based on a buildout population of 12,500, less than half the population of 28,000 that

could be accommodated under the current Foresthill General Plan if every available parcel of land were to be subdivided to the maximum number of lots allowed. Assumptions used as the basis for the FDCP must be consistent with the Placer County General Plan. This impact is therefore considered less than significant.

b. Induce substantial growth in an area either directly or indirectly (e.g., through projects in an undeveloped area or extension of major infrastructure)?

Less Than Significant Impact

Refer to Item 2(a).

c. Displace existing housing, especially affordable housing?

Less Than Significant Impact

The FDCP does not propose to displace any existing housing. The County has an obligation to maintain consistency with the Housing Element of the Placer County General Plan, and it is anticipated that potentially significant impacts associated with housing will be mitigated to a level that is less than significant through mitigating policies included in the Population and Housing component of the FDCP. This impact is therefore considered less than significant.

3. GEOLOGIC PROBLEMS. Would the proposal result in or expose people to potential impacts involving:

a. Unstable earth conditions or changes in geologic substructures?

Potentially Significant Impact

The FDCP Background Report includes information on the geology of the Plan area. According to the Background Report, Placer County is not known to possess active faults. The Plan area is within the Melones fault zone; however, it is noted in the 1977 County Seismic and Safety Element that the central county area, which includes the Plan area, is the most stable area, formed on ancient granitic and metamorphic rock that contains no historically active faults. Western Placer County is more susceptible to seismic events, and eastern Placer County is historically earthquake-prone because the main frontal fault of the Sierra Nevada occurs about 6 miles east of Lake Tahoe. The Plan area has the potential to be affected by shock waves that would result from earthquakes in these areas.

The canyon sides of the American River watershed are prone to sliding or slumping due to slopes in excess of 30 percent. There are several rock units within the Plan area that have active deposits. Table 1 summarizes potentially unstable rock units and the landslide deposit classification.

Table 1 – Potentially Unstable Rock Units

Rock Unit	Landslide Deposits
Valley Springs Tuff	Active
Metavolcanic Flows	Active
Mehrtren Mudflow Breccia (weathered)	Inactive
Serpentine	Inactive
Metasedimentary Rocks	Inactive

Source: Livingston 1976

Development that occurs consistent with the FDCP will potentially be subject to these hazards. The FDCP includes policies designed to minimize the loss of life, injury, and property damage due to seismic and geologic hazards. It is anticipated that most, if not all, potentially significant impacts associated with geologic hazards will be mitigated to a level that is less than significant through the policies in the FDCP. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

b. Significant disruptions, displacements, compaction or overcovering of the soil?

Potentially Significant Impact

Redevelopment of certain industrial sites within the townsite, widening and maintenance of roads as prescribed in the FDCP, and new construction and development resulting from implementation of the Plan have the potential to disrupt, displace, compact, and overcover soil, and alter topography or ground surface relief features within the Plan area.

The FDCP directly promotes "the conservation of soils as a valuable natural resource". Policies of the FDCP will help to minimize soil loss from dust generation and water run-off and to implement soil conservation and restoration programs. Policies will also help to minimize drainage concentrations and impervious coverage and maintain, to the extent feasible, natural site drainage conditions.

The full impact of buildout of the FDCP on the increase in impervious surfaces will be addressed in the Program EIR for the Community Plan.

c. Substantial change in topography or ground surface relief features?

Potentially Significant Impact

The FDCP does not promote development that will result in substantial changes in topography or ground surface relief features. The FDCP includes policies intended to limit development in areas of steep or unstable slopes, limit cuts and fills, limit grading to the smallest practical area, create grading contours that blend with natural contours, and provide that new structures be designed and located to fit the natural terrain. However, new development has the potential to result in substantial grading impacts, depending on location. This impact is therefore considered potentially significant, and will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

d. The destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?

Less Than Significant Impact

The Plan area comprises 109 square miles on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada; Foresthill Divide is essentially a ridge defined by Shirttail Canyon and El Dorado Canyon. In itself, the Plan area is a unique geologic feature, with a mix of underlying volcanic and metamorphic rock and flows. Alteration of the landscape, along with its potential to destroy, cover, or modify geologic features would represent a potentially significant impact. However, the FDCP is designed to avoid these types of impacts and to maintain the unique character of the Plan area. Policies provide for new development and road construction to minimize land alterations and to be designed to fit the natural terrain, support the preservation and enhancement of natural land forms, encourage the retention of natural features, and avoid locating structures along ridgelines and steep slopes. This impact is therefore considered less than significant.

e. Any significant increase in wind or water erosion of soils, either on or off the site?

Potentially Significant Impact

The Foresthill Divide is located within an area where soils have moderate to high erosion hazards. Increases in non-permeable surfaces, such as rooftops, roadways, and parking lots, create more surface runoff and overland flow, hence, a greater potential for water erosion of soils. This is a potentially significant impact that will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

f. Changes in deposition or erosion or changes in siltation which may modify the channel of a river, stream, or lake?

Potentially Significant Impact

As described in Item 3(e) above, the proposed project has the potential to adversely impact water erosion of soils. According to the *General Plan Background Report*, "The hazard of soil erosion can lead to other hazards including slope instability and sedimentation of nearby streams and rivers". The North and Middle Forks of the American River, as well as Shirttail Canyon and El Dorado Canyon, border the Plan area, and are directly at risk of sedimentation should Plan implementation result in erosion. This is a potentially significant impact that will be addressed in the Program EIR for the Community Plan.

g. Exposure of people or property to geologic and geomorphological (i.e. avalanches) hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, mudslides, ground failure, or similar hazards?

Potentially Significant Impact

The Foresthill Divide is subject to avalanches. According to the FDCP Background Report, the combination of steep slopes, abundant snow, weather, snowpack, and an impetus to cause movement may create an avalanching episode. The Plan area has not been identified as a moderate or high avalanche hazard zone; however, avalanching episodes may occur. Placer County's avalanche management program works to identify Potential Avalanche Hazard Areas (PAHAs) in order to minimize risk.

The Plan Area is located between the Melones Fault Zone and the Foothills Fault Zone, which runs approximately north to south. According to the *General Plan Background Report*:

> ...the Foothills Fault Zone and the Melones Fault Zone were reviewed for possible [hazard] zoning by California Division of Mines and Geology (CDMG) in 1983 or 1984. CDMG found well-defined evidence of Holocene faulting to be lacking, although minor offsets were observed of soils that are possibly of Holocene age. These zones also were rejected for hazard zoning.

According to the 1981 *Foresthill General Plan*, the canyon sides of the American River watersheds are prone to sliding or slumping due to slopes in excess of 30 percent.

The canyons of the North Fork of the American River are considered active landslide areas in Placer County. Table 1 in Item 3(a) lists the rock units in Placer County that have active or inactive deposits, and are most likely to experience landslides. The potential for landslides to occur within the Plan area is therefore considered significant. Impacts related to geologic and geomorphological hazards will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

4. WATER. Would the proposal result in:

a. Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface runoff?

Potentially Significant Impact

Refer to Item 3(b) above.

b. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?

Less Than Significant Impact

According to the *General Plan Background Report*, flooding due to excessive rainfall can occur in Placer County anytime between November and May. The *Foresthill General Plan* states:

> Special flood hazard areas have recently been mapped in Placer County by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. According to their maps there are only two flood hazard zones within the plan area. The first is the Middle Fork of the American River which serves as the southern boundary the plan. The second area is the North Fork of the American River running through the western portion of the plan area within the proposed Auburn Dam Take-line.

While the Plan area is prone to seasonal flooding, it is not located within a 100-year flood zone, as determined by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). The FDCP includes policies to mitigate the potential threat of flooding of new development to a level that is less than significant.

c. Discharge into surface waters or other alterations of surface water quality (e.g., temperature, dissolved oxygen, or turbidity)?

Potentially Significant Impact

There is no piped storm drainage system in the Plan area, and all runoff will be to surface waters. Storm water runoff can potentially increase, as discussed in Item 3(b) above, and runoff can carry pollutants into waterways within the watershed. It is anticipated that most, if not all, potentially significant impacts associated with runoff will be mitigated to a level that is less than significant through mitigating policies included in the FDCP. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

d. Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body?

Potentially Significant Impact

Increased storm water runoff as a result of new development and construction will potentially increase the amount of overland flow. Overland flow that does not percolate, and instead follows watercourses to the Middle and/or North Fork of the American River, will add to the volume of surface water in the rivers, and eventually Folsom Lake.

Development associated with the FDCP would reduce available surface water from Sugar Pine Reservoir. The extent of this reduction is not known, and therefore requires further assessment in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

e. Changes in currents, or the course or direction of water movements?

No Impact

The FDCP does not propose changes to a waterway and has no potential to change currents or the course or direction of water movements. The FDCP includes a goal to avoid alteration of waterways and adjacent areas. No impact has been identified.

f. Change in the quantity of groundwater, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations, or through substantial loss of groundwater recharge capability?

Potentially Significant Impact

The FDCP does not directly propose interception of an aquifer or major cuts, excavations, or alteration of groundwater recharge capability. Within the 20-year time horizon for the FDCP, Sugar Pine Reservoir, fed by Forbes Creek and Big Reservoir, will continue to be the main source of water for the Plan area. However, parcels beyond the periphery of the townsite will be served by individual wells; cumulatively, this has the potential to adversely affect ground waters. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

g. Altered direction or rate of flow of groundwater?

No Impact

The FDCP does not involve direct rerouting or alteration of rate of flow of groundwater. No impact has been identified.

h. Impacts to groundwater quality?

Potentially Significant Impact

The FDCP does not directly involve discharges of waste water or other wastes that could impact groundwater quality; however, development associated with the FDCP will introduce the need for additional septic systems, which may have cumulative impacts on groundwater quality. Because the Plan area is characterized by excessive slopes (30% or greater), restrictive geological formations, and existing small parcel sizes in the townsite of Foresthill, sewage disposal is an issue of primary concern. The FDCP includes policies that address the criteria for appropriate standards for individual septic systems. Cumulative impacts associated with sewage disposal and groundwater quality are potentially significant, and will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

i. Substantial reduction in the amount of groundwater otherwise available for public water supplies?

Potentially Significant Impact

Within the Plan area, water is supplied by a combination of private wells and community water systems. The Foresthill PUD provides domestic water supply for Todd's Valley and Foresthill, and Baker Ranch Water District provides domestic water supply for the existing mobile home park and existing homes in the area. Michigan Bluff Water District supplies the Michigan Bluff community. In addition, many individual parcels are supplied with pumped groundwater by individual wells.

As discussed in Item 4(f) above, the FDCP will potentially impact groundwater supplies. As presented in the Background Report, continued use of a community water system is recommended for higher density areas within the Plan area. A significant portion of the Plan area is located outside the Foresthill PUD boundaries and other water system service areas, and could not be connected to a community water system. However, most of these areas are not considered suitable for development. Cumulatively, the addition of new wells to accommodate new growth within the Plan area may impact the amount of groundwater otherwise available for public water supplies.

Cumulative impacts associated with groundwater supply are potentially significant, and will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

j. Impacts to the watershed of important surface water resources, including but not limited to, Lake Tahoe, Folsom Lake, Hell Hole Reservoir, Rock Creek Reservoir, Sugar Pine Reservoir, French Meadows Reservoir, Combie Lake, and Rollins Lake?

Less Than Significant Impact

A watershed is an area drained by a river or river system. Foresthill is located on a ridge between the North Fork and Middle Fork of the American River Watersheds. Both rivers feed Folsom Lake and are an integral part of the watershed. The Pagge Creek watershed of Sugar Pine Reservoir provides the Foresthill Divide with the majority of its water supply. It is located in the northeasternmost portion of the Plan area and could potentially be affected by development in the watersheds above Forbes Creek and Big Reservoir. Policies of the FDCP encourage protection of surface water resources and preservation and improvement of watersheds, and reduce potential impacts to a level that is less than significant.

5. AIR QUALITY. Would the proposal:

a. Violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation?

Potentially Significant Impact

The Plan area is located in Placer County, just inside the western boundary of the Mountain Counties Air Basin, and is under the jurisdiction of the Placer County Air Pollution Control District (APCD). Both the State of California and the federal government have established ambient air quality standards for pollutants. According to the FDCP Background Report, state and federal ozone standards are not met in the vicinity of the Plan area, primarily due to transport of ozone into the area from the greater Sacramento area. Particulate matter (PM10) air quality meets federal standards, but does not meet the state standards for PM10. The California Health and Safety Code (H&SC) §40910 and §40913 require air quality districts to endeavor to achieve the State ambient air quality standards by the earliest practicable date. H&SC §40910 requires districts to pay specific attention to reducing emissions from transportation sources.

An air quality analysis will be prepared to analyze and evaluate impacts associated with implementation of the FDCP. This analysis will be included in the Program EIR for the FDCP, and will address potentially significant air

quality impacts (both direct and cumulative) and recommended mitigation measures.

b. Expose sensitive receptors to pollutants?

Potentially Significant Impact

As the Plan area accommodates new growth and development, vehicle emissions and fugitive particulates from construction projects will increase and will have the potential to expose sensitive receptors to pollutants. The air quality analysis will address these issues, at which time potential impacts will be evaluated and mitigation measures recommended. This analysis will be included in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

c. Have the potential to increase localized carbon monoxide levels at nearby intersections in exceedance of adopted standards?

Potentially Significant Impact

Carbon monoxide levels are unclassified in Placer County, meaning that insufficient monitoring data is available. Generally, unclassified areas are treated as attainment areas. The air quality analysis that will be included in the Program EIR for the FDCP will evaluate potential carbon monoxide impacts and evaluate their significance.

d. Create objectionable odors?

Less Than Significant Impact

The FDCP will replace and supersede the existing Foresthill General Plan. Policies, land use designations and zoning will be used as tools to discourage potential land use incompatibility that may result in exposure to objectionable odors. However, the possible extent of this impact cannot be assessed on the basis of the speculative and indeterminate nature of future development that might locate in the Plan area. In the event uses are proposed that may have odor potential, separate environmental assessments will be prepared at that time. This impact is therefore considered less than significant.

6. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION. Would the proposal result in:

a. Increased vehicle trips or traffic congestion?

Potentially Significant Impact

The FDCP aims to accommodate future growth within the Plan Area, including accommodating additional vehicular traffic, which will be the

primary source of transportation for the planning time horizon. Increased vehicle trips are inevitable as the community grows, and as the FDCP is implemented. The Placer County Public Works Department has projected that Foresthill Road (the primary access to the Plan area) ,when fully improved, will accommodate approximately 13,000 daily trips at Level of Service (LOS) "C". The FDCP is intended to minimize the potential for unsatisfactory Level of Service on Foresthill Road by establishing LOS "C" or better as the standard for Foresthill Road between Auburn and the Idle Wheels Mobile Home Park, and LOS "D" or better between the Idle Wheels Mobile Home Park and east of Foresthill Elementary School.

An analysis of existing circulation/transportation conditions was completed for the FDCP Background Report by kdAnderson Transportation Engineers. As presented in the Background Report, currently all of the study roadways operate at LOS "C" or better.

A traffic study will be completed by kdAnderson that will address in detail the issues and impacts associated with the FDCP, and recommend mitigation measures to address identified impacts. This study will be included in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

b. Hazards to safety from design features (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

Potentially Significant Impact

The FDCP involves additions and alterations to circulation patterns within the Plan area. The FDCP provides "for the long-range planning and development of the county's roadway system to ensure the safe and efficient movement of people and goods". Additional traffic in a mountainous area with curves, cliffs, and sight distance issues, such as roadways on the Divide, may expose larger numbers of people to traffic hazards associated with mountainous driving. The FDCP Background Report includes history on traffic accidents within the past three years, and identifies high accident locations. The majority of accidents in the Plan area have occurred on Foresthill Road, in the vicinity of Driver's Flat Road, Upper Lake, North Fork Ponderosa Way, and Todd's Valley Road. The FDCP identifies segments of Foresthill Road as dangerous. The traffic impact study will assess impacts associated with road safety and design features, and this information will be included in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

c. Inadequate emergency access or access to nearby uses?

Potentially Significant Impact

Implementation of the FDCP will not affect emergency access to existing uses within the Plan area. However, additional development in areas subject to wildland fires may create additional impacts to emergency access. Under the FDCP, the Fire Department and Sheriff's Department are encouraged to maintain adequate response times. The FDCP includes policies and mitigation measures to address emergency access and alternative routes. However, impacts may remain potentially significant. The traffic impact study will address impact associated with emergency access, and this information will be included in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

d. Insufficient parking capacity on-site or off-site?

Less Than Significant Impact

The FDCP encourages the provision of adequate parking facilities in the Core Area (downtown) to be consolidated in well-designed and landscaped public parking lots, and allows both on-street and off-street parking to satisfy the parking requirements of uses in the Core Area. In the Mill Mixed Use Area, parking is encouraged to be consolidated and include consideration of interconnected parking lots and trails. In the Canyon Mixed Use Area, new development must be designed so that no contiguous parking lot is created along the Foresthill Road frontage; parking along the sides or to the rear of new development is encouraged. Any new use resulting from the FDCP will be required to provide adequate parking; therefore, the impact is considered less than significant.

e. Hazards or barriers for pedestrians or bicyclists?

No Impact

The FDCP will not create hazards or barriers for pedestrians or bicyclists. The FDCP includes numerous policies that provide for safe, comprehensive, and integrated systems of facilities for non-motorized transportation, and promoting increased access and safe transportation routes for pedestrians and bicyclists. No impact has been identified.

f. Conflicts with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?

No Impact

The FDCP will not conflict with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation. It includes goals and policies designed to encourage public and alternative transportation to alleviate both pollution and congestion, and promotes carpooling, transit use, telecommuting and home-based businesses, and use of alternative modes. No impact has been identified.

g. Rail, waterborne, or air traffic impacts?

No Impact

The FDCP will not affect rail, waterborne, or air traffic. No impact has been identified.

7. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the proposal result in impacts to:

a. Endangered, threatened or rare species or their habitats (including, but not limited to plants, fish, insects, animals, and birds)?

Potentially Significant Impact

Implementation of the FDCP could have potentially adverse effects on species and their habitats. According to the FDCP Background Report, the Plan area supports 9 habitat types. Sensitive habitats in the Plan area include potential jurisdictional waters of the United States (wetlands), wildlife movement corridors, and riparian habitats. The Background Report presents a list of special-status plant and animal species that have been reported within the Plan area and vicinity. The California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) lists nine-special status wildlife species as occurring within a 5-mile radius of the Plan area; 11 additional species have the potential to occur within the Plan area. Raptors and other migratory birds are protected by state and/or federal resource agencies and are also described in the Background Report. The Background Report also identifies the presence of special-status plant species in the Plan area. The CNDDB lists 11 special-status plant species as occurring within a 5-mile radius of the Plan area. However, based on review of other information, the Background Report concludes that suitable habitat for only 9 species occurs within the Plan area. The FDCP recognizes the importance of habitat and all plant and animal species to the Plan area, including common species. Goals and policies promote protection of wetlands and riparian areas as valuable resources, and protection, restoration and enhancement of habitats to maintain fish and wildlife populations at viable levels. A complete analysis of biological resources, including candidate, sensitive, special-status species, migration routes, and wildlife movement zones has been conducted to identify specific impacts that may result from the FDCP, and recommended mitigation measures to address those impacts. This analysis will be included in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

b. Locally occurring natural communities (e.g., oak woodlands, mixed conifer, annual grasslands, etc.)?

Potentially Significant Impact

Refer to Item 7(a) above.

c. Significant ecological resources including:

1) Wetland areas including vernal pools;

Potentially Significant Impact

Vernal pools are seasonal wetlands unique to California's grasslands and oak savannahs where impervious rocks or clay layers collect water from storms. According to the FDCP Background Report, such habitat does not exist within the Plan area. Jurisdictional waters of the U.S. within the Plan area include the North Fork of the American River and associated tributaries, Sugar Pine Reservoir, and Big Reservoir. Additional streams, ponds and intermittent drainages within the Plan area are potential jurisdictional waters. Additional water features deemed jurisdictional, such as wetlands, ponds, or intermittent drainages may occur within the Plan area. A technical report will be prepared to assess potential impacts on biological resources within the Plan Area, including wetlands, and recommend mitigation measures. That report will be included in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

2) Stream environment zones;

Potentially Significant Impact

The FDCP does not involve changes to riparian zones, or areas in the immediate vicinity of such zones. The FDCP includes policies intended to "protect wetland communities and related riparian areas throughout the Plan area as valuable resources and encourage their creation and restoration". As noted above, studies are being prepared to identify potential impacts and mitigation measures. This information will be included in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

3) Critical deer winter ranges (winter and summer), migratory routes and fawning habitat;

Potentially Significant Impact

Refer to Item 7(c)(5).

4) Large areas of non-fragmented natural habitat, including but not limited to Blue Oak Woodlands, Valley Foothill Riparian, vernal pool habitat;

Potentially Significant Impact

Refer to Items 7(a) and 7(c)(1) above.

5) **Identifiable wildlife movement zones, including but not limited to, non-fragmented stream environment zones, avian and mammalian routes, and known concentration areas of waterfowl within the Pacific Flyway;**

Potentially Significant Impact

The FDCP Background Report identifies wildlife movement corridors. It reports that a majority of the Plan area is not developed and allows for movement and migration through the area. Further development of the Plan area will diminish the quality of these movement corridors and may ultimately restrict wildlife movement throughout the Foresthill Divide region. This potentially significant impact will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

6) **Important spawning areas for anadramous fish?**

No Impact

Anadromous fish cannot move upriver beyond Folsom Dam. No impact has been identified.

8. **ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the proposal:**

a. **Conflict with adopted energy conservation plans?**

No Impact

No adopted energy conservation plan exists for the Plan area. However, the FDCP includes policies and programs to promote energy conservation. No impact has been identified.

b. **Use non-renewable resources in a wasteful and inefficient manner?**

No Impact

The FDCP is not designed to use non-renewable resources in a wasteful and inefficient manner. Refer to Item 8(a). No impact has been identified.

c. **Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of future value to the region and state residents?**

Potentially Significant Impact

According to the *General Plan Background Report*, "an extensive range of extractive mineral resources are found throughout Placer County, many of which have been mined since the Gold Rush era". Within and adjacent to the Plan area, there are several mineral extraction sites; however, the mineral(s) being extracted is/are unknown. Due to the lack of specific information available, the impact is considered potentially significant, and further analysis will be included in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

9. HAZARDS. Would the proposal involve:

a. A risk of accidental explosion or release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to: oil, pesticides, chemicals or radiation)?

Potentially Significant Impact

While the FDCP does not encourage, promote, or otherwise facilitate the use or disposal of hazardous materials which would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment, it is always possible that new industrial and commercial uses which utilize hazardous substances in the course of their operations could result in an adverse impact. This impact is considered potentially significant, and will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

b. Possible interference with an emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Potentially Significant Impact

Refer to Item 6(c).

c. The creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard?

Less Than Significant Impact

The FDCP does not create any health hazards. This impact is considered less than significant.

d. Exposure of people to existing sources of potential health hazards?

Potentially Significant Impact

The FDCP involves conversion of traditional industrial areas such as the old Mill site to new uses. Toxic residues from old industry, as well as harmful building materials such as lead and asbestos, may be present. Exposure to

such materials poses a potentially significant health impact to the public. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

e. Increased fire hazard in areas with flammable brush, grass, or trees?

Potentially Significant Impact

New growth and development resulting from implementation of the FDCP will be subject to the threat of wildland fires. The FDCP includes goals and policies that aim to minimize fire hazards and protect residents, visitors, property, and watershed resources from wildland fires, and which may reduce impacts, but not to a level that is less than significant. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

10. NOISE. Would the proposal result in:

a. Increases in existing noise levels?

Potentially Significant Impact

According to the FDCP Background Report, traffic noise is the primary source of noise in the Plan area (primarily on Foresthill Road, where speeds are higher), followed by neighborhood activities (barking dogs, amplified music, etc.). A community noise survey was conducted to document noise exposure in portions of the Plan area which are away from the major roadways. In general, the Plan area is characterized as very quiet to relatively quiet. A few industrial and recreational uses which are noise generators have been identified. As concluded in the Background Report, to maintain the low noise environment, it will be necessary to continue to follow the standards established in the Placer County General Plan, which depend upon separating new noise-generating uses from existing and planned noise-sensitive uses. Impacts related to increased traffic on Foresthill Road, new construction, and operation of new industrial uses are potentially significant, and will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

b. Exposure of people to noise levels in excess of County standards?

Potentially Significant Impact

Refer to Item 10(a).

11. PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the proposal have an effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered government services, in any of the following areas:

a. Fire protection?

Potentially Significant Impact

The Plan area is located in the Foresthill Fire Protection District and the Placer County Fire District. Fire protection within the townsite is currently provided by volunteers of the Foresthill Fire District. Placer County contracts with the California Department of Forestry (CDF) to provide fire protection in outlying areas identified as State Responsibility Areas. As the Plan area continues to develop under the proposed FDCP, new residences and businesses will require additional fire protection. The FDCP includes policies that address fire protection. It is anticipated that achieving the fire protection standards established in the Plan will require expansion of fire protection services. The Program EIR for the FDCP will address potential impacts and mitigation measures.

b. Sheriff protection?

Potentially Significant Impact

As the Plan area continues to develop under the FDCP, new residences and businesses will require public safety protection. Maintenance of the County's average response times and staffing ratio will require additional staff and equipment as development occurs. The FDCP includes policies regarding appropriate staffing ratios, response times, and encourages volunteer assistance at the Sheriff's Department substation in Foresthill to compensate for additional staffing that may be needed. The Program EIR for the FDCP will address potential impacts and mitigation measures.

c. Schools?

Potentially Significant Impact

The Foresthill Divide Plan area is served by the Foresthill Union School District, which includes Foresthill Elementary School and Foresthill Divide Middle School. In the Foresthill area, high school students must travel to Auburn to attend one of four high schools within the Placer Union High School District. Enrollment in both districts exceeds capacity. A bond issue was passed by the voters to build a new high school, which is projected to be occupied by 2003. The High School and Elementary School districts have jointly purchased a 110-acre site (a portion of the former mill site), of which 40 acres will be occupied by a new high school, 20 acres will be occupied by a new elementary school, and 50 acres will be commonly owned. Although the FDCP involves planning for the school system, increases in population in the Plan area may have a significant impact on schools. Impact fees are divided between the Placer Union High School District and the Foresthill Union School District. Current State law limits the types of mitigation

measures that a County may impose to address impacts on schools. This subject will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

d. Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?

Potentially Significant Impact

Public facilities, including roads, will need to be maintained under the FDCP. Additional improvements to Foresthill Road are proposed under the FDCP. Traffic Impact Fees, collected by County Public Works, are collected to help finance necessary road extensions, improvements, and widening necessitated by new development proposed in accordance with the FDCP. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

e. Other governmental services?

Potentially Significant Impact

Additional County services and facilities will be affected by growth associated with the FDCP. The Placer County Building Department collects a Facility Fee to help finance general government services. Impacts on other governmental services will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

12. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the proposal result in a need for new systems or supplies, or substantial alterations to the following utilities:

a. Power or natural gas?

Less Than Significant Impact

Electric service is provided in the Foresthill Divide Plan area by PG & E. The FDCP does not necessitate the expansion of services outside of the area currently served. Development will primarily occur in already urbanized areas within the townsite and historic outlying commercial districts. Although electrical power availability has become a statewide issue, PG&E remains obligated to provide this service to the Plan area, and power emergencies are becoming less frequent. The Plan area is not served by natural gas; propane is, and will continue to be, provided on an individual basis.

b. Communication systems?

Less Than Significant Impact

Basic telephone service on the Foresthill Divide is provided by Foresthill Telephone Company. Pacific Bell provides additional telecommunications

systems to the Plan area. The FDCP calls for provision of state of the art communications service and installation of the latest telephone/ communications technology in new developments. Extension of telecommunications services is provided by the telecommunication companies, and impacts are considered less than significant.

c. Local or regional water treatment or distribution facilities?

Potentially Significant Impact

As presented in the FDCP Background Report, domestic water in the Plan area is principally supplied by three agencies: Foresthill Public Utility District, Baker Ranch Water District, and Michigan Bluff Water Company. The Foresthill PUD's water treatment facility, located in Foresthill, consists of a direct filtration treatment plant that delivers the supply through a gravity-fed system. The facility treats an average of 600,000 to 700,000 gallons per day, with a peak day volume of 1.9 million gallons, and has the capacity to treat up to 3 million gallons per day. Water transmission facilities will serve the buildout population of 12,000; however, an expanded treatment facility will be needed within the next 10 years to accommodate growth and water treatment in excess of 3 million gallons per day. The water supply from Sugar Pine Reservoir is adequate to serve the proposed buildout population of approximately 12,000 people, and has the potential to serve over 20,000 people. Impacts on water treatment and distribution facilities will be discussed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

d. Sewer, septic systems, or wastewater treatment and disposal facilities?

Potentially Significant Impact

There is no community sewer system in the Foresthill Divide Community Plan area. According to the FDCP Background Report, the only community sewerage systems (*i.e.* community leach fields, oxidation ponds) are those serving the mobilehome parks, two apartment complexes and four houses on one lot. Future growth will continue to be served by septic systems, unless required by Placer County Environmental Health Department to connect to a community sewer system. Sewer systems may be necessary for development of higher densities that generate high sewage flows or concentrate large quantities of sewage in limited areas. The effectiveness of septic systems remains limited in some areas by shallow soils, massive granitic rock complexes, and excessive slopes that are characteristic of some portions of the Plan area. There are areas within the Plan area, however, that do not have shallow soils and are suitable for individual septic systems, such as Todd's Valley. Other areas may be suitable with the use of engineered septic systems. Soil suitability for septic systems was taken into consideration in development of the FDCP. Installation of septic tanks and community sewage systems are

regulated by the FDCP and the Placer County Environmental Health Department according to lot size. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

e. Storm water drainage?

Potentially Significant Impact

The Plan area is not served by a piped storm drainage system. The FDCP does not directly involve the construction of new storm water drainage facilities. However, within the 20-year time horizon of the FDCP, new development will take place that requires adequate drainage. The FDCP contains goals and policies that encourage the collection and disposal of stormwater in a manner that least inconveniences the public, reduces potential water-related damage, and enhances the environment. New storm drainage systems will be required to be designed in conformance with the Placer County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's *Stormwater Management Manual* and the *County Land Development Manual.* Project designs that minimize drainage concentrations and impervious coverage and maintain, to the extent feasible, natural site drainage conditions are encouraged. As presented in Item 3(b), impacts associated with an increased volume of storm water runoff will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

f. Solid waste materials recovery or disposal?

Less Than Significant Impact

The Foresthill Transfer Station is leased by Placer County from the U.S. Bureau of Land Mangement, operated by Auburn-Placer Disposal, and accommodates 90 cubic yards/day. Waste is transferred to the County's Western Regional Landfill and Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) near Roseville. The FDCP will not cause landfill capacity to be exceeded; therefore, the impact is considered less than significant.

g. Local or regional water supplies?

Less Than Significant Impact

The Foresthill Divide will continue to be served by Sugar Pine Reservoir. As discussed in Item 12(c), there is adequate water supply to serve the proposed buildout population of 12,000. The FDCP requires all new development to demonstrate the availability of a long-term, reliable water supply. Where a community water system is not available and the County considers approval of groundwater as the domestic water source, the FDCP requires test wells, appropriate testing, and/or reports from qualified professionals substantiating

the long-term availability of suitable groundwater. Impacts are considered less than significant.

13. AESTHETICS. Would the proposal:

a. Affect a scenic vista or scenic highway?

Potentially Significant Impact

Development in accordance with the FDCP will affect the visual perception of the Foresthill Road corridor, the primary transportation route through the Plan area, and the entryway to the townsite, by encouraging additional development and redevelopment within the townsite. It is possible that proposed development projects could have a negative visual impact on the rural character and forest backdrop that is greatly valued by the community. Although the FDCP was carefully crafted to reduce negative visual impacts, promote community aesthetics and protect visual resources, which are central to the character of the Foresthill Divide, impacts of development in particularly sensitive areas (e.g., Canyon Mixed-Use Districts) are potentially significant. The FDCP includes a Community Design Element, which includes the following goals (with supporting policies):

2.A: Promote, preserve and enhance the forested nature of the Foresthill Divide and rural atmosphere of the Foresthill community by requiring high aesthetic quality in all new development.

2.B: Implement the Foresthill Design Guidelines, Streetscape Master Plan for Foresthill Road and Main Street within the historic core area of Foresthill.

2.C: Ensure that development projects complement the rural nature of the Foresthill Divide by minimizing the visual impact of man made features on the rural landscape.

Adoption of these goals and supporting policies will reduce impacts, but potentially not to a level that is less than significant. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

There are no state scenic highways within the Plan area or vicinity. However, under the FDCP, the following road segments would be designated as scenic highways:

- Foresthill Road within the Plan area and to Robinson Flat
- Mosquito Ridge Road to Robinson Flat Road
- Robinson Flat Road from Mosquito Ridge Road to Foresthill Road

Designation of these roadway segments as scenic highways, along with applicable policies and provisions of the FDCP, will reduce impacts to a level that is less than significant.

b. Have a demonstrable negative aesthetic effect?

Less Than Significant Impact

As intended, the FDCP will affect the visual character and the quality of the Foresthill Divide. Changes to the Plan area will be consistent with and are intended to enhance the rural character and historic quality of the community, as presented in Item 13(a); therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

c. Create adverse light or glare effects?

Potentially Significant Impact

New lighting will likely be required for new developments and establishments within the Plan area. Maintaining a dark sky is important to Plan area residents, and policies included in the FDCP require night lighting to be limited to that necessary for security, safety and identification. Night lighting must also be screened from adjacent residential areas and not be directed upward or beyond the boundaries of the parcel where the lighting occurs. The FDCP also does not permit new lighting that shines onto adjacent properties or into the night sky, and modification/removal of existing outdoor lighting of that type is encouraged. However, due to the need for security lighting for new land uses (e.g., new high school, industrial and commercial uses, and pedestrian walkways) in an area characterized by low ambient light levels, this impact is considered potentially significant, and will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP. Adoption of a "dark sky" ordinance is a potential mitigation measure.

14. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the proposal:

a. Disturb paleontological resources?

Potentially Significant Impact

According to the *General Plan Background Report*, fossilized plant and animal remains could be found in nearly all of Placer County, although no inventory or other information source exists that characterizes the extent, sensitivity, or significance of paleontologoical resources. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

b. Disturb archaeological resources?

Potentially Significant Impact

A cultural resources survey was conducted for the Plan area and is included in the FDCP Background Report. There are archaeological resources, both identified and unidentified, located within the Plan area. The FDCP includes policies which promote identification and protection of archaeological resources in the Plan area. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

c. Affect historical resources?

Potentially Significant Impact

A cultural resources survey was conducted for the Plan area and is included in the FDCP Background Report. There are historical resources located within the Plan area. The FDCP includes policies which promote protection of historic structures and the historical core area of Foresthill. This issue will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

d. Have the potential to cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values?

Potentially Significant Impact

Refer to Item 14(b) above.

e. Restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?

Potentially Significant Impact

Refer to Item 14(b) above.

15. RECREATION. Would the proposal:

a. Increase the demand for neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities?

Potentially Significant Impact

As the Plan area continues to develop, the demand for parks, recreation facilities and equestrian/pedestrian/bicycle trails will continue to increase. Outdoor recreation-oriented businesses will continue to develop due to the proximity to public lands, and this type of development of the local economy will increase the number of residents and visitors within the Plan area, all of

whom have recreational needs. The FDCP includes a Parks and Recreation component which promotes development of a comprehensive network of equestrian/pedestrian/bicycle trails to serve the recreational needs of the community. The FDCP also includes policies that promote maintenance of park and recreation standards, including improved parklands, passive recreation areas, and park facilities. The FDCP accounts for the recreation needs of current and future residents and visitors; however, because resources have not been identified to implement all of the FDCP proposals, the impact is considered potentially significant, and will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

b. Affect existing recreational opportunities?

Potentially Significant Impact

The FDCP may affect existing recreational opportunities through increased demand for and use of existing facilities and programs. This impact is potentially significant, and will be addressed in the Program EIR for the FDCP.

III. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.

a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of rare or endangered plants or animals, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

Potentially Significant Impact

The following significant impacts or potentially significant impacts have been identified in this Initial Study that have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory:

Items: 1(d), 3(a), 3(b), 3(c), 3(e), 3(f), 4(a), 4(c), 4(d), 4(f), 4(h), 4(i), 5(a), 5(b), 5(c), 7(a), 7(b), 7(c), 8(c), 9(a), 9(e), 12(d), 12(e), 13(a), 13(c), 14(a), 14(b), 14(c), 14(d), and 14(e).

b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

Potentially Significant Impact

The following significant impacts or potentially significant impacts have been identified in this Initial Study that are cumulatively considerable:

Items: 1(d), 4(c), 4(f), 4(h), and 4(i), 5(a), 5(b), 5(c), 6(a), 11(a), 11(b), 11(c), 11(d), 11(e), and 12(3).

c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Potentially Significant Impact

The following significant or potentially significant impacts have been identified in this Initial Study that have the potential to cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly:

Items: 1(f), 3(g), 5(a), 5(b), 5(c), 6(a), 6(b), 6(c), 9(a), 9(b), 9(d), 9(e), 10(a), 10(b), 11(a), 11(b), 11(c), 11(d), 11(e), 12(c), 12(d), 13(a), 13(c), 15(a) and 15(b).

IV. EARLIER ANALYSIS

Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, one or more effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration [State CEQA Guidelines Section 15063(c)(3)(D)]. In this case a discussion should identify the following:

A. **Earlier analyses used.** Identify earlier analyses and state where they are available for review.

No earlier analyses were used.

B. **Impacts adequately addressed.** Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of, and adequately analyzed in, an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards. Also, state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.

Not applicable; no earlier analyses were used.

C. **Mitigation measures.**

Mitigation measures incorporated from earlier documents that will result in "less than significant impacts."

None; No earlier analyses were used.

V. OTHER RESPONSIBLE AND TRUSTEE AGENCIES WHOSE APPROVAL IS REQUIRED

No additional public agencies whose discretionary approval is required have been identified.

VI. DETERMINATION (to be completed by the Lead Agency)

_____ **A.** I find that the proposed project is categorically exempt (Class ____) from the provisions of CEQA.

_____ **B.** I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

_____ **C.** I find that although the proposed project **COULD** have a significant effect on the environment, there **WILL NOT** be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

_____ **D.** I find that the proposed project is within the scope of impacts addressed in a previously adopted Negative Declaration, and that only minor technical changes and/or additions are necessary to ensure its adequacy for the project. An **ADDENDUM TO THE PREVIOUSLY-ADOPTED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

__X__ **E.** I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required (*i.e.* Project, Program, or Master EIR).

_____ **F.** I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect(s) on the environment, and at least one effect has not been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards. Potentially significant impacts and mitigation measures that have been adequately addressed in an earlier document are described on attached sheets (see Section IV above). An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** will be prepared to address those effect(s) that remain outstanding (*i.e.* focused, subsequent, or supplemental EIR).

_____ **G.** I find that the proposed project is within the scope of impacts addressed in a previously certified EIR, and that some changes and/or additions are necessary, but none of the conditions requiring a Subsequent or Supplemental EIR exist. An **ADDENDUM TO THE PREVIOUSLY-CERTIFIED EIR** will be prepared.

_____ **H.** I find that the proposed project is within the scope of impacts addressed in a previously-certified Program EIR, and that no new effects will occur nor new mitigation measures are required. Potentially significant impacts and mitigation measures that have been adequately addressed in an earlier document are described on attached sheets, including applicable mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project (see Section IV above). **NO FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT** will be prepared [see CEQA Guidelines, Section 15168(c)(2), 15180, 15181, 15182, 15183.]

____ **I.** Other

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE (Persons/Departments Consulted):

G. Dean Prigmore, Planning Department

Phillip Frantz, Department of Public Works

Roger Davies, Environmental Health Services

Dave Vintze, Air Pollution Control District

Signature: G. Dean Prigmore 9/19/01
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON Date

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Appendix B

FORESTHILL DIVIDE COMMUNITY PLAN (FDCP)
HERITAGE RESOURCE ELEMENT

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JULY 15, 2000

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PART ONE – BACKGROUND REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Placer County is preparing an update of the 1981 Foresthill General Plan. The plan, now referenced as the Foresthill Divide Community Plan (FDCP), is bounded by the North Fork American River, Shirttail Canyon, the watershed of Sugar Pine Reservoir and Elliot Ranch Road on the west and north, by the west branch of El Dorado Canyon on the east, and by the North Fork of the Middle Fork American River and the Middle Fork American River on the south. The plan area encompasses approximately 109 square miles, of which half is in public ownership (U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, etc.). The plan area covers several 7.5' USGS quadrangles (Auburn, Colfax, Dutch Flat, Foresthill, Georgetown, Greenwood, Michigan Bluff, and Westville).

The Foresthill Divide contains a rich heritage that is marked by numerous archaeological and cultural properties. Heritage resources are being lost to natural deterioration and to development-related impacts. Heritage resources are especially at risk, as the Foresthill Divide assumes an increasing role as the "bedroom" community for Auburn and Sacramento. Incoming residents and visitors, and the new construction designed to accommodate them, may compromise the rich sense of heritage and unique historical identity of the Divide. An appreciation of the heritage of the Foresthill Divide will engender the preservation and rejuvenation of old Foresthill and its surroundings and insure that both long-term and incoming residents and visitors to Foresthill can appreciate the area they have chosen to live and visit.

SETTING

The following physical and cultural background draws heavily from contexts presented in the "Historical, Architectural, and Archaeological Resources of Placer County, California (Terhorst and Gerike 1992) and in work by Baker (2000), Baker and Shoup (1992), and Baker, Shoup and Brack (1993) associated with the Highway 124 Project. Further information is taken from Carlson's (1986) ethnographic overview and Markley and Henton's (1985) prehistoric overview of the Tahoe National Forest. Details regarding the physical and cultural setting of the Foresthill Divide are found in these sources and will not be repeated here.

PHYSICAL SETTING

The Foresthill Divide is a long northeast-trending ridge system separating the North and Middle Forks of the American River. The ridge ranges in width from two to ten miles. As one of the major east-west ridge systems of the north-central Sierra Nevada, the Divide would have provided relatively easy access for prehistoric populations moving east and west over the crest. However, the steep canyons and rugged terrain to the north and south of the Divide may have been a barrier to travel and trade, and ultimately contributed to cultural conservatism and the development of local identities and differences, which included basic technology and economic and settlement patterns (Baker 2000:281). The Foresthill Divide has been sculpted by tectonic forces and stream erosion. During times of glacial advances, Sierran streams steepened their channels, creating steep slopes and tributary canyons and destabilizing riverside banks. It is during these times that ridgetop village

sites may have been preferable to village locales along streams. Ridges were also the preferred locales for Euroamerican settlements and ranchlands.

Rocks in the Foresthill region represent a geologic history spanning nearly 300 million years. The rocks underlying the Divide are part of the Mother Lode Belt and include slates and shales of the Mariposa Formation. The Mariposa Formation is composed of ancient seafloor sediments. These sedimentary rocks are associated with underlying volcanic rocks of the Logtown Ridge Formation. The flat ridge of the Foresthill Divide is formed by a complex system of Tertiary channels capped by lavas that are included within the Mehrten Formation and categorized as andesite mud-flows. The underlying ancient Tertiary river channels contain auriferous deposits that were the focus of hydraulic and drift mining for gold by incoming Euroamericans. Prehistoric populations also appear to have had detailed knowledge of these geological deposits (Baker 2000:10). For example, the complex geology of the Foresthill Divide region provided a variety of stone for tool manufacture, including slate and schist, chert, and igneous and metamorphic materials. In addition, basalt and obsidian were brought or traded into the area from source locations as far as the Truckee-Tahoe Basin, Bodie Hills, Napa, and locales in northeast California and northwest Nevada. Also, prehistoric populations visited salt marshes near Cool and salt springs near Lincoln and mined quartz crystal quarries in the Middle Fork Canyon for toolstone and ceremonial use and red and yellow ochre near Clipper gap for ornamentation and rock art.

The Mediterranean climate of the Foresthill Divide is characterized by hot summers and cool winters, with most precipitation falling during the winter. The FDCP area receives little snow, as the winter snow line on the Divide is around 3000 feet in elevation. The North and Middle Forks of the American River form the major hydrological features; fresh water sources are relatively abundant on top of the Divide. Rivers cut steep canyons up to 1000 feet below the top of the Divide that presented major obstacles for both prehistoric and historic populations traveling off of the Divide.

The FDCP area spans an elevation range roughly between 600 and 4800 feet and encompasses several major life zones that gradually change with increasing altitude. Mountain ridges are colonized by mixed forests, oaks, shrubs, grasslands, and meadows--habitat for diverse faunal resources. The rich array of plants and animals were of subsistence and economic importance to both aboriginal inhabitants and incoming Euroamericans.

PREHISTORY AND THE NATIVE AMERICAN PERIOD

Clear boundary determinations for Native American residents along the Foresthill Divide are confounded by the complete disruption of aboriginal cultures by early Euroamericans and of traditional practices involving inter-group trade, politics, marriage, and ritual. The Foresthill Divide lies firmly within the traditional territory of the Hill Nisenan (or Southern Maidu), a Penutian speaking group that inhabited the west-central Sierra Nevada. The Divide is peripheral land used by the Washoe, Hokan language speakers who chiefly occupied the west-central Great Basin along the eastern Sierran flank and its crest (Beales 1933; d'Azevedo 1966; Levey 1978; Littlejohn 1928). After historic contact, Northern Miwok, also Penutian speakers, may have resided here; Northern Miwok currently reside on the Divide. The Hill Nisenan held territory in the foothill and mountainous portions of the Yuba, Bear and American rivers, and the lower drainages of the Feather

River. The Hill Nisenan recognized three divisions within their group based on slight linguistic and cultural differences. The Foresthill people belonged to one of the subgroups with its "center of influence" at Auburn (Littlejohn 1928:15). Nuclear Washoe tribal lands were about 2000 square miles surrounding Lake Tahoe, with much larger peripheral lands having flexible, undefended boundaries. The area between snowline on the west Sierra slope and the Sierran crest was shared between the Nisenan and Washoe. Tradition holds that the Washoe and Nisenan had contact at Westville, east and upslope of the FDCP area, and that encounters were not always friendly.

Environmental phenomena such as springs and drainages, unique geological outcrops, and different land surface exposures with variable slopes created extreme variety in the accompanying plant and animal communities upon which aboriginal populations depended. Like most hunters and gatherers, vegetable foods formed the subsistence baseline, although they used a wide range of plant and animal species. Generally, the least productive time of the year for both the Hill Nisenan and Washoe was late winter-early spring. Hill Nisenan caught salmon during spring runs up the North and Middle Forks of the American Rivers and their tributaries. Throughout the summer, both groups gathered nuts and seeds, roots, berries, fungi, and greens. Expeditions to hunt large game took place within the higher elevations during the fall. Acorns became available in massive quantities in the autumn. Acorn eating is the hallmark of California Indians and they were the primary staple for those groups who inhabited the western foothills of the Sierra. The Washoe went to great lengths to obtain acorns in trade from their western neighbors.

Lower elevations encompassed by the FDCP area, were occupied on a permanent or semi-permanent basis, with higher elevations being inhabited at various times of the year by smaller groups that made seasonal movements in order to procure economic resources as they became available. The archaeological imprint of these ancient subsistence activities are distinctive, with diverse environmental zones closely corresponding to a variety of specific site types, such as villages, multi-task camps, task-specific locales, and special use areas.

Hill Nisenan villages and year-round encampments were clustered in the lower elevations of the FDCP area. Villages were usually placed on ridge tops and on large flats along major streams. Permanent villages are represented archaeologically by culturally enriched and darkened soils (or "midden") which contain artifacts, charcoal, organic debris, and/or house pit and dance house depressions. Villages hosted important social gatherings and religious ceremonies. Dances to celebrate seasonal events and honor ancestors and deities were held in large semi-subterranean dance houses. (The Todds Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation is currently planning construction of a new dance house near Foresthill.) Hill Nisenan villages consisted of from four to l2 separate dwellings, housing a nuclear or polygamous family. Larger social organizations, called "tribelets", were formed by several villages uniting under a single chief. Triblet boundaries were marked by natural ridges between streams. No permanent Nisenan winter village occupation is reported above approximately 4000 feet elevation on the western slope.

The Washoe generally wintered in the Truckee Meadows area on the east slope of the Sierra and spent summers in the higher elevations in and around the Truckee-Tahoe Basin and west of the crest. Compared to the Hill Nisenan, the Washoe were a relatively informal and flexible political collectivity. While semi-permanent villages were maintained along the eastern Sierran front, the

Washoe as a whole were more mobile than the Nisenan and the Washoe have a tradition of making long treks across the Sierran passes to hunt and gather acorns and to trade with Maidu and Miwok neighbors.

At seasonal base camps, the occupation by fewer people for briefer periods of time precluded the build up of deep midden deposits. Such seasonal camps are manifest archaeologically by a wide range of cultural items (including stone tools, waste flakes from the manufacture of stone tools, and milling equipment such as bedrock mortars and pestles and hand stones and portable milling slabs). This artifact inventory indicates that multiple tasks were pursued.

Single-task specific sites were located throughout Washoe and Nisenan territory and were used at variable times of the year as satellite locales aimed at a specific function. Task sites were often located away from camps or villages and near concentrations of plant, animal or fish resources. For example, bedrock mortar stations were positioned in oak groves, fishing stations were established near productive spawning streams, and hunting stations were placed in proximity to deer migration routes. Aboriginal trek routes were patterned after game trails, were later used by the emigrants, and are often the precursors of our modern transportation systems.

Special use sites were often isolated from living areas and comprise petroglyphs (or rock writings), cemeteries, and quarries where toolstone such as chert or basalt was mined and roughly fashioned into tools.

These land use patterns, known from Washoe and Nisenan protohistoric times, are generally consistent with interpretations derived from numerous archaeological investigations within the Placer County (and a few excavations on the Foresthill Divide). The archaeological record indicates a shift from sparsely populated hunting-based societies in earlier times to growing populations with increasing reliance on plant foods by the time of historic contact. Also, paleoclimates may have been warmer and drier in the past, allowing for year-round occupation of the higher elevations. Occupation along the Divide may extend earlier than 5000 years ago and continue up to the time of historic contact. Between about 7000 and 5000 years ago, during the Early Archaic Period, climates were warmer and drier and drying lowlands may have prompted human populations to travel to upland resource zones where prehistoric economies incorporated seed processing and fishing, as well as hunting. During the Middle Archaic period, dating from about 5000 to 1300 years ago, climates became moister and, with a return to more optimal living conditions, population densities increased. More intensive prehistoric use of the Foresthill Divide by mixed-mode foragers/collectors began during this period. The Late Archaic period, about 1300 years ago to historic contact, has been equated with the Nisenan and Washoe cultures, as described in ethnographic accounts written by early anthropologists. This period is marked by an overall drying trend, with cool and moist episodes alternating with extended severe drought. Throughout the Lake Archaic, prehistoric populations continued to increase.

The largest available body of ethnographic data on the Nisenan and Washoe was collected between the 1890s to the 1930s. Most of this information was gathered after aboriginal populations had been substantially reduced and the process of acculturation was well underway. The Washoe and the Nisenan inhabited the heart of two of the most important mineral resource zones in the western

United States, the Sierra Nevada Mother Lode and the Comstock Lode of Nevada, respectively. By the 1850s Euroamericans had permanently occupied their territories and changed traditional lifeways. Mining, lumbering, grazing, commercial fishing, tourism, and the growth of settlements disrupted traditional Indian relationships to the land. As hunting, fishing, and gathering wild foods were no longer possible, they were forced into dependency upon the Euroamerican settlers.

Little is known about the period of initial contact on the Divide between Indians and Euroamericans. Resistance to white incursions occurred, mostly in the form of Indian raids upon the stock and camps in desperate attempts to find food. Disruption of subsistence patterns, starvation, disease, and violence resulted in a severe decline in Native populations and abandonment of villages. The Federal Government's Indian "relocation" policies in California were set in motion during the 1850s with the creation of rancherias and reservations. Nisenan either stayed on reservations or rancherias and married into their own or into other Indian tribes, or became assimilated into the dominant Euroamerican society. Nonetheless, reports of early anthropologists and census records indicate that some Nisenan remained in their home places. Nisenan recall place names for several village locations on the Divide (Littlejohn n.d.; 1928): Pow'o to at Damascus, To I mom at Red Point, Kil' im yan at Westville, Om'lam (meaning "tall rocks") at Mile Hill Toll House, Hem'hem near Yankee Jim's, Wa'tas near Spring Garden, O'pok pok at Todd's Valley, etc. A Nisenan cemetery is located in the Spring Garden/Todd Valley area continues to be used and maintained. Today, significant numbers of Nisenan are dispersed throughout many Sierran foothill communities. On the Foresthill Divide, interest in maintaining traditional ways is reflected in the revival of dances, basketry skills and new construction for a ceremonial roundhouse near Todd's Valley. The Todds Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation has been established within the last five years and the group is in the process of gaining official tribal recognition from the U.S. governmental (Brown and Suehead, personal communication 2000). Members conduct monthly meetings. The group is committed to preserving their heritage and reestablishing their presence and traditional practices on the Divide. Plans are underway to build a roundhouse on BLM land near Foresthill. Miwok-Maidu plant managers are actively involved in harvesting plants of traditional importance and are concerned about the disappearance of oak stands with their prized acorn crop.

The Washoe remain as a recognized tribe by the U.S. government and have maintained an established land base. Its 1200 tribal members are governed by a tribal council that consists of members of the Carson, Dresslerville, Woodfords, and Reno-Sparks Indian colonies, as well as members from non-reservation areas.

HISTORIC PERIOD

Gold Rush Period (1848-1859)

Earliest exploration during the Spanish and Mexican periods was limited in Placer County. It wasn't until later, with the growing American interest in the Trans-Mississippi West and California, that the U.S. government dispatched expeditions, such as those led by John C. Fremont, to explore the region, produce accurate maps, and report back on the region's inhabitants and resources. Fremont's expedition of 1845-1846 traversed portions of Placer County over Donner Pass.

A similar route to that taken by Fremont, ascending the Truckee River out of Nevada, over Donner Pass, and down the west slope into the Central Valley, was opened in 1844 by members of the Stephens-Townsend-Murphy Party, the first emigrant group to cross the Sierra Nevada by wagon. Hundreds of emigrant trains soon followed, the most notable being the Donner Party. The ordeal of starvation and cannibalism, endured by their members in the winter of l846-1847, is a well-known and tragic episode in the American settlement of the West and is now memorialized at Donner State Historic Park in adjacent Nevada County.

A few months after John Marshall's gold discovery in January of 1848 at Sutter's Mill in Coloma, Claude Chana found gold in Placer County in Auburn Ravine near Ophir. Thousands of gold seekers soon arrived and within a few years settlements were permanently established in Placer County. The first prospecting along the Foresthill Divide was confined to the shallow placers along gravel bars and the beds of running streams where younger Quaternary stream deposits eroded the gold-bearing gravels laid down in earlier times. These shallow deposits were initially mined by a variety of simple surface hand mining techniques that involved the basic principle of agitating gold-bearing gravel in water-filled containers. Early gold extraction devices include gold pan, rocker, long tom, and sluice box. These early techniques were ultimately phased out in favor of ones that processed higher volumes of gravel. However, the sluice box continued as the standard means for extracting gold from gravels. The shallower pits and excavations and mounds of hand-piled rocks associated with these old surface washings are now largely infilled by erosion and are sometimes difficult to distinguish from natural features.

Older Tertiary Gravels, such as those formed by the ancestral American River that drained the Foresthill Divide, were laid down by slower Sierra Nevada rivers with gradual slopes. These huge deposits of ancient, loosely cemented gold-bearing gravels are more deeply buried and required more sophisticated techniques in their extraction. One method, ground sluicing, employed gravity flows of water aided by pick and shovel to break up deposits. Hydraulicking was a more powerful form of ground sluicing, using water under pressure to dislodge and direct gold-bearing deposits into sluices where gold was trapped. “Coyoting” and later, more elaborate drift mining techniques, both employed horizontal or vertical excavations sunk into the ground to reach the gold bearing gravels. The majority of mining on the Foresthill Divide was accomplishing by drift mining, using an adit and/or a shaft to reach the gold-rich ancient river channel lying deep under the ridge.

To accommodate simple mining techniques and to keep pace with the innovations of increasingly more sophisticated and powerful hydraulic methods, which demanded enormous volumes of water, an elaborate system of ditches, flumes and storage reservoirs was put in place. Financial backing requiring larger capital reserves and prompted the development of ditch companies that directed their water delivery and storage facilities to major diggings. Ditches and flumes headed in high elevation reservoirs and wound their way down mountainsides.

Placer mines far outnumbered lode mines on the Foresthill Divide. In California quartz lode mining was a less important mining technique than placer mining until after the discovery and development of the Comstock silver mines in Nevada in 1859. The "Mother Lode" is the popular name for the main quartz vein that is associated with the intrusion of the Sierra Nevada batholith. This single lode is split into a number of seams that underlie the quartz lode region within western and central Placer

County. These gold-quartz veins occur along contacts between granite and metamorphosed sedimentary rocks, volcanics and deeply weathered serpentinite. These and other hardrock sources were tapped by excavating tunnels with drills and dynamite in order to follow gold bearing quartz veins. Rock was transported out of the tunnels on ore carts and then transferred to stamp mills where the rock was crushed to release the gold ores from the surrounding material. The pulverized ore was then treated to remove impurities.

After the discovery of gold along the Foresthill Divide at Birds' Store in 1850, communities quickly sprang up around the mines. Yankee Jim's, Todd's Valley, Michigan Bluff, and Foresthill, and the numerous river bars along the North and Middle Forks of the American River were active mining communities during the early 1850s. By 1850, wagons traveled up onto the Divide, following old Indian trails, and pioneered the main travelway that became today's Foresthill Road (Forest Highway 124). By 1852, Foresthill became the business and transportation center of the Divide by 1852 and survives as the only remaining viable community.

Yankee Jim's (California Historical Landmark 398) is important as the site of Placer County's first hydraulic mining operation in 1853 and the site of the first mining ditch in the county (and perhaps the state) cut in 1851. The town takes its name from Yankee Jim (whose real name was reportedly Robinson), an infamous horse thief who built a corral here in 1849 to keep his horses. Yankee Jim is credited with the first gold discovery in the area. A post office was established at Yankee Jim's in 1852. Yankee Jims is also renown as the site of the first commercial orchards in Placer County. The town became an important local supplier of fruits on the Foresthill Divide. The town declined as a commercial center with the growth of nearby Foresthill and Todd's Valley on the ridge. By 1882, with the passage of the 1882-Anti-Debris Act that curtailed hydraulic mining, the town's populace of 3000 had dwindled to only 150 permanent residents.

Michigan Bluff, another one of the region's earliest mining towns, was established in 1850 (California Historical Landmark No. 402). By 1853, miners were hydraulicking the area. The mining ditches supplied water for the mines and provided the town with a reliable water supply and the town soon became a supply center for other mining camps farther up the Divide. Leland Stanford (later to become one of the Central Pacific Railroad's "Big Four" and subsequently Governor of California) operated a clothing store at Michigan Bluff from 1853 to 1855. The town fell into decline in 1882 when hydraulic mining was restricted.

Foresthill (California Historical Landmark No. 399), was established in the fall of 1850 by M. Fannan, James Fannan and R.S. Johnson. as a small trading post. The trading post later became the town's first "Forest House." A post office was established here in 1859. Located on the main route along the Divide, Foresthill quickly became a center for trade and traffic to and from Michigan Bluff, Yankee Jim's, Deadwood, Last Chance, and Westville. Gold was "accidentally" discovered within the deep river gravels below Foresthill after a landslide exposed nuggets of gold in the debris. By 1857, there were 25 drift operations in the area, most tunnels entering into the gravel deposits from the east side of the Divide. Prosperous mining companies around Foresthill included: the Dardanelles, Jenny Lind, Northwood & Fast, the Rough and Ready, the Jersey, the Alabama, the Eagle, and the India Rubber.

Throughout this early gold rush period, logging, agriculture, and transportation were adjuncts in support of the mining industry. Many migrants who flocked to the county had no intention of working the mines, but rather of working the miners, an equally lucrative prospect with burgeoning populations needing shops and services, food and clothing, transportation and building materials. California was almost completely dependent on imported food, most coming from Oregon, Hawaii, Chile, and other Pacific-rim countries. To fill this subsistence need, disenchanted or opportunistic ex-miners secured the best farming lands in the lower foothills in Placer County to produce food for miners. Ranching of both sheep and cattle was encouraged by the increased demand for meat during the gold rush.

Sawmills immediately sprang up around mining camps to supply lumber for mine timbering and building materials for the growing settlements. The mills at Foresthill and Todd's Valley were in operation in the 1850s.

The growth of gold rush era camps and towns stimulated the development of transportation systems based on supplying mines and camps with needed mail, express and provisions. Mining camps located along the present-day Foresthill Divide were difficult to reach by foot or by wagon. Miners traveled early roads to the mines using crude wagons, pack animals, or backpacks. Freighting with wagons or transport by major express companies out of valley supply centers was not undertaken until larger-scale hydraulic developed in the late 1850s. With the permanence of the mining settlements insured, heavy expenditures commonly required for road building were justified. As government was unable or unwilling to finance road building, individuals or companies undertook the task and operated the thoroughfares as toll roads for profit and as a means to attract freight business into a community. As teaming became more important, the number and permanency of roadside inns increased. By the 1850s, the route along the current Forest Highway 124 was established as the main travelway between Auburn and the Foresthill Divide. The original road undoubtedly followed an earlier Native American trail.

A heterogenous population composed of people from every corner of the world crowded into the Sierra mining districts, as reflected in the ethnic names assigned to some of the earliest camps in along the Foresthill Divide. Native Americans played an important and little acknowledged part in the earliest period of the gold rush. Immigrants from Hawaii, Latin America, Europe, Asia, and elsewhere were initially welcomed because of their knowledge of mining techniques, but anti-foreign feelings hampered their economic opportunities in Placer County and many groups were gradually forced out of the mines altogether into other economic pursuits. The mingling of these different ethnic groups and nationalities has produced a unique cultural collage from which the heritage of the Foresthill Divide is drawn.

Post-Gold Rush Period (1859-present)

The years following 1859 are marked by technological changes that prompted a shift in the organization and financial arrangements of the mines. Lode mining and large-scale placer mining within the county required considerable technical skill, which was dependent upon scientific knowledge and a trained work force. The era of the self-sufficient, itinerant prospector with pick and shovel gave way to a system based increasingly on cooperation between groups of miners and

ultimately to the miner as wage earner employed by large multidivisional corporations tied to the national and world economy. National and foreign capitalists, initially investing only in mining, now poured their money into logging, transportation and water development, enterprises that paralleled mining interests. The period after 1859 can also be characterized by a change in settlement patterns, away from the "boom-bust" camp structure common to the early mining frontier, and the growth of a more mature, stable, and diversified economy and social structure that was not based on mining alone.

The beginning of this period was heralded by a down-turn in the county's mining economy, as mining in the American River basins was curtailed by the exodus of miners and capitalists to the Comstock rush of 1859-1865. By the late 1860s, the Placer County mines were again productive. Until 1884, when the hydraulic mines were restrained from dumping their tailings into the streams, the largest hydraulic mines in the world were operated here, providing the county's largest source of gold.

From the turn of the century to 1917, statewide gold production statewide rose. With the restrictions imposed on hydraulic mining, lode mining, drift mining and gold dredging supplied the principal sources of gold. Inflation following World War I caused the continual decline of gold production until the early 1930s when the prices increased during the depression years; gold output in the state was nearly as high as it had been during the gold rush. Thousands of urban unemployed rushed to the Sierran gold fields to prospect with pan and rocker. The revival of mining infused communities along the Foresthill Divide with new life and stimulated non-mining industries such as logging and agriculture. Many mines were shut down during World War II and reopened soon afterward, but with decreasing productivity. Gradually outside investment capital was funneled away from mining into California agriculture and real estate. The Placer County gold mining industry has not since recovered. Cement mining operations during the 1920s revived the local economy.

After the discovery of gold and silver in the Comstock in 1859, traffic was sufficiently heavy to warrant major improvements on the trans-Sierra routes. Towns in the western part of the county, in an effort to position themselves at trans-mountain road termini and obtain a share of the rapidly growing Comstock trade, established connecting roads to the major trans-Sierran routes through Placer County. The present route of Highway 124 emerged as the main travelway connecting the Foresthill Divide to Auburn and beyond. By the 1860s, Butcher Ranch became an important stage and wagon stop along this road. The community grew, with a school being established in 1878. Other way stations/ranching communities within this main travelway are the Grizzly Bear House and the 1853 United States Ranch/U.S. House (also called the “Mile Hill Toll House” and “North Star Toll House” and currently near the site of the Monte Verde Inn). These communities ceased to exist as way stations, as the automobile and truck gradually replaced the stagecoach and freight wagon.

Lumbermen commenced cutting pine to meet the needs of the western mines for timbering and flume construction. On the Foresthill Divide, sawmills date back to the early gold rush period. They tended to be smaller, generally produced for local consumption, and usually operated on a seasonal basis. The men who worked in the mill and forest were usually settled members of the community in nearby towns. Foresthill’s timber industry sustained the community after the decline of mining

operations. However, the local timber industry was unable to compete with similar operations along the route of the transcontinental railroad. The onset of World War II prompted an increase in lumber production on the Foresthill Divide, as wartime demand stimulated the harvest of remaining large stands along the Divide. After the war, stands on nearby Mosquito Ridge were opened for harvest, with logs being milled in Foreshill.

As with lumber and other county industries, farm production for outside markets came after 1859 and was dependent on the development of better transportation systems. During the 1860s settled agriculture continued in the western part of the county on farms of varying sizes. Along the Foresthill Divide, agriculture/ranching centered on the ridge tops and on orchard crops and the production of hay and seasonal stocking of cattle.

The late 19th century brought a surge of interest and appreciation of wilderness recreation and forest lands increasingly became the relocation focus for retirees during the 20th century. The Tahoe National Forest promoted the recreational potential of its lands, which were enhanced by Civilian Conservation Corps crews between 1933 and 1943. Within the last few decades, recreational interest in the region has dramatically increased. This interest is accompanied by a rise in incoming residents who desire to live in an aesthetically pleasing and historically rich area. The enhancement and interpretation of selected historic sites and buildings have boosted community economies throughout Placer County and the Foresthill Divide in the form of recreational tourism.

The Foresthill Divide Historical Society is committed to preserving the history of the Foresthill Divide, which it believes to be a strong point for the community (Moffet, personal communication 2000). The unique history of the Divide, along with its recreational potential, are viewed as critical elements in the economic well being of the community and quality of life for its residents. In so doing, there is concern that future developments on the Divide are careful not to alter the historic "flavor" of old townsites. The group wishes to be consulted regarding future development issues on the Divide in order to insure preservation of remaining heritage resources and monitor new development (Percival, personal communication 2000). The group has an active membership and conducts regular meetings and has established an Internet web site (HTTP://mmoffet.neworld.net). Their web site averages from 20 to 40 "hits" a day, with inquiries throughout the U.S. and the world , especially from school districts. Greatest interest lies in topics involving gold mining, the gold rush, mining history, and Miwok-Maidu heritage. The society has a collection of over 800 historic photos, which are variously shown on their web site. The society is committed to sharing information regarding Foresthill Divide's past within the medium of the future, the Internet, and in so doing they provide a model for other local historical organizations to also go on-line.

The "Foresthill Divide Historic Resources Survey" (4/20/1991) was a volunteer project sponsored in part by the Foresthill Divide Historical Society. The group compiled the survey of pre-1945 structures, objects and sites as part of a community awareness program and necessary first step for the economic rejuvenation of the old commercial core of Foresthill and to assist county planning in drafting a historic preservation component for the general plan update. The survey compiles the major historic sites and structures located on publicly owned lands of the Foresthill Divide, with a focus on the historic townsites of Foresthill, Michigan Bluff and Yankee Jim's. Historic properties were evaluated for architectural, historical and/or cultural

significance according to the guidelines set forth in the "California Historic Resources Inventory Survey Workbook." The historical society is prepared to take a position involving the preservation of certain historic structures and may consider expanding the current historic designations within the Foresthill townsite (Percival, personal communication 2000).

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

SUMMARY OF CALIFORNIA LAWS AND LOCAL ORDINANCES PROTECTING HERITAGE RESOURCES

The integrity of the unique and varied heritage resources of Foresthill Divide is being diminished daily by natural deterioration and the processes and the pressures of growth. A variety of California laws and local ordinances have been passed in the last few decades that are designed to protect archaeological resources. Key legislation is summarized below. Several California public resource codes make it illegal to damage objects of historical or archaeological interest on public or private lands or to disturb human remains, including those in archaeological sites. It is illegal to possess remains or artifacts taken from Native American graves and the Native American Heritage Commission must be consulted whenever Native American graves are found.

California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA")

The act requires that all private and public activities not specifically exempted be evaluated against the potential for environmental damage, including effects to historical resources

Health and Safety Code, Section 7052 (Stats. 1939, C.60:672)

This code establishes a felony penalty for mutilating, disinterring, or otherwise disturbing human remains, except by relatives.

Penal Code, Section 622.5 (Stats. 1939, D.90:1605, 5.1)

This code provides misdemeanor penalties for injuring or destroying objects of historical or archaeological interest located on public or private lands. It specifically excludes the landowner.

Public Resources Code, Section 5097.5 (Stats. 1965, C.11362792)

An additional code defines as a misdemeanor the unauthorized disturbance or removal of archaeological, historical, or paleontological resources located on public lands.

Public Resources Code S5097.9

It is contrary to the free expression and exercise of Native American religion to interfere with or cause severe or irreparable damage to any Native American cemetery, place of worship, religious or ceremonial site or sacred shrine.

Health and Safety Code, Ch. 1492 (SB 297)

The health and safety code requires that the Governor's Native American Heritage Commission be consulted whenever Native American graves are found. It makes it illegal to possess remains or artifacts taken from Native American graves. If human remains are discovered, all work should stop in the immediate vicinity of the find and the county coroner must be notified, according to Section 7050.5 of California's Health and Safety Code. If the remains are Native American, the coroner should notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which in turn will inform a most likely descendant. The descendant will then recommend to the landowner appropriate disposition of the remains.

Public Resources Code Sec. 5024 and 5024.5

This code requires State Government agencies to inventory and protect historical structures and objects under their jurisdiction. The State Historic Preservation Officer must be consulted before any such structure or object is altered or sold.

Confidentiality

In order to prevent vandalism and unauthorized artifact collecting and to protect landowners from trespass, the locations of cultural resources are kept confidential. California Code Section 6254.10 exempts archaeological site information from the California Public Records Act, which requires that public records be open to public inspection. Location information is restricted and is not circulated as part of public documents but is used for planning purposes only.

HERITAGE RESOURCE EVALUATION CRITERIA

Evaluation of Significance

CEQA criteria of significance [Section 15064.5] are one means of determining whether a site is a historical resource. The criteria are modeled upon guidelines established by the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). For the purposes of CEQA, a significant heritage resource is one which:

- Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
- Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
- Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In general, CEQA provides protection to "historical resources" and to "archaeological resources" that are "important" and/or "unique." An "important archaeological resource" must meet one or more of the above CEQA criteria. A "unique archaeological resource" must qualify under one of the first three CEQA criteria [Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(g)]. Public Resources Code

Section 21084.1, which is part of CEQA, provides additional guidelines for the designation and additional protection of heritage resources classified as "historical resources." Resources that must be treated as "historical" are:

- Those resources listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources;
- Those resources presumed to be historical in the absence of a preponderance of evidence indicating otherwise and that may be included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k);
- Those resources deemed significant pursuant to criteria set forth in Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(g); and/or
- Those heritage resources that an agency, going beyond the minimum call of statutory duty, has freely chosen to consider "historical."

Significant heritage resources are also acknowledged on a number of local registers. Eligibility criteria for these heritage registers generally incorporate the basic tenants of criteria established in the National Register and CEQA. However, these criteria have been modified in order to include a broader range of resources that better reflect the history of California at the local level. For example, the State Historic Landmark Program and the Point of Historic Interest Program also recognize buildings, sites, and objects of local or statewide importance.

In the case of linear features, significance evaluations are typically made in terms of a particular segment that may qualify for listing as a contributing or non-contributing part of a contiguous or noncontiguous district. While all segments may be united by a single theme - for example, the building and operation of a particular roadway - certain segments may not be individually eligible due to lack of integrity and age. According to National Register Criteria, a contributing property is defined as "being present during the period of significance, and possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time or is capable of yielding important information about the period, or it independently meets National Register criteria "(National Parks Service 1986:42). A non-contributing historic property is defined as "not being present during the period of significance, or due to alterations, disturbances, additions, or other changes, it no longer possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time or is incapable of yielding important information about the period, or it does not independently meet National Register criteria" (National Park Service 1986:42).

In an effort to expand upon the generalized National Register criteria for evaluating small segments of larger linear features, engineering and construction methods are more specifically defined in terms of size and length, presence of distinctive engineering features and associated properties, structural integrity, and setting (Mikesell 1990; Owen 1991; Supernowicz 1991). The highest probability for National Register eligibility exists within the intact, longer segments, where multiple criteria coincide.

IMPACTS

If a heritage resource is determined significant, effects of a project on the heritage property should be assessed. A property is said to be impacted (or effected) if the project will diminish the integrity of a property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, or the quality of data suitable for scientific analysis. In particular, the archaeological remains left by region's ancestral Native Americans require respectful treatment, along with the continued incorporation of contemporary Native American opinions, knowledge and sentiments into the planning process.

Several potential project-related effects are most likely to occur within the FDCP area. These impacts result from the demolition, removal or alteration of buildings and structures to make way for new construction, the destruction of prehistoric or historic archaeological sites during any ground disturbance activities, and/or general changes in land use that may effect the integrity of the setting of heritage properties by introducing incompatible visual or audible elements into the setting of a potentially significant resource. The latter category of impact is especially critical in the case of historic structures. In addition, indirect impacts due to increased public access into an area containing a site could result in vandalism. Of further concern are potential impacts to natural resources of importance to contemporary Native Americans, such as traditional plants (e.g, acorn, bear grass, etc.).

Federal regulatory impact thresholds are contained in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and accompanying regulations (36 CFR part 800). CEQA addresses the significance of impacts on historical and unique archaeological resources in Section 15064.5.

MITIGATION OF IMPACTS

Once it has been determined that a project may adversely effect a potentially significant heritage property, appropriate mitigation measures should be implemented and carried out. A means to monitor mitigation must also be identified. Prior to the property's modification or destruction, field-related mitigation activities should be implemented in consultation with appropriate federal, state and local agencies and Native American group. Consideration and discussion of mitigation measures proposed to minimize significant impacts are contained in CEQA Section 15126.4. Mitigation measures can include project modification designed to protect and/or avoid a site. In lieu of project modification, a data recovery program can involve archival research, photo documentation and mapping, removal of a historic structure, collection of artifacts, recordation of features, test excavations, larger scale excavations, or some combination of these tasks. Interpretive development of heritage remains is another form of impact mitigation that enhances not only public education and enjoyment, but greatly augments the local economy. A sense of local pride and solidarity is manifest in the interpretation of heritage attractions that celebrate cultural diversity and human ingenuity.

DATA SOURCES

Research entailed a general literature review of prehistoric and historic sources concerning the FDCP area. A car tour of portions of the community plan area was conducted. No on-the-ground archaeological field survey was performed.

In order to obtain a sense of the heritage resource for the FDCP area, archaeological site records, held at the Archaeological Inventory, North Central Information Center (NCIC), California State University at Sacramento (CSUS) were reviewed. The NCIC maintains records of archaeological sites inventoried in Placer County, including the Foresthill Divide. Records are available to qualified researchers for use during the land development process. Basic heritage resource inventories reviewed at this facility include: the National Register of Historic Places (through current volume), the State of California Historic Landmarks and Points of Historic Interest (through current listings), Historical, Architectural and Archaeological Resources of Placer County (12/1992), Foresthill Divide Historic Resources Survey (4/20/1991), Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File for Placer County (1/13/00), Survey of Surveys-A Summary of California Historical and Archaeological Research Surveys (California Department of Parks and Recreation 1989), California Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility for Placer County (1/28/00), and Caltrans Bridge Survey (10/31/89). Other local histories and secondary sources consulted are listed in the references cited section of this report.

To complete this survey of archaeological site records, contacts with a variety of public and private agencies were also initiated. These included the Tahoe National Forest, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, California Division of Forestry, Placer County Historical Society/Museums/Archives, Foresthill Divide Historical Society, and Placer County Planning Department. The counsel of representatives of the local Todds Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation and the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California was sought, in order to determine known areas of Native American cultural ecology and history and management concerns over traditional tribal lands on the Divide. Field record reviews and telephone consultations with agency heritage resource personnel and local contacts for information regarding cultural/historical issues are listed below.

KEY CONTACTS

Contacts with a number of agency officials and private individuals were initiated in order to supplement the cultural resources inventory data. Key contacts include: the Archaeological Inventory at the North Central Information Center (NCIC) California State University Sacramento (CSUS), U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Placer County Department of Museums and Archives, Foresthill Divide Historical Society, California Division of Forestry, and the Todds Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation.

Contact: Marianne Russo, Coordinator, NCIC-CSUS—Sacramento
Date: field records review 6/28-6/29/00
Sources: Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File for Placer County 12/92, California Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility for Placer County Determinations of National Register Eligibility 1/28/00, Points of Historical Interest for Placer County 1992, California Register of Historic Resources, base maps, backlog reports, Auburn Dam miscellany, historic quad maps, card file index of surveys with NCIC numbers.

Contact: Carmel Barry-Schweyer, Placer County Department of Museums and Archives—Auburn
Date: telephone consultation 6/27, 7/13/00
Sources: deeds, accuser files, Placer County directories, maps, journals, newspapers, historic business and mining directories, miscellaneous diaries, letters, photographs, and maps dating from the 1850s to the 1920s, Sanborn fire insurance maps, printouts on births, deaths and marriages, the Great (voting) Register, tapes or transcriptions of oral history interviews, and indexes and accompanying documents regarding Placer County mines, personalities, historic themes, and historical newspaper clippings.

Contact: Placer County Planning Department—Auburn
Sources: 1981 Foresthill General Plan and EIR, 1994 Placer County General Plan and EIR, data incorporated into the Placer County Geographic Information System (GIS) and existing maps for the FDCP project (Base Map, Archaeology, Mines, Slope, Watersheds, Vegetation, Geology, Wildlife, Hydrology and Soils), California Department of Parks and Recreation, etc.

Contact: Nolan Smith, District Archaeologist, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Foresthill Ranger District--Foresthill
Date: field consultation 6/29-6/30/00
Sources: Heritage Resource Atlas (GIS data base with overlays showing archaeological coverage and site locations), heritage resource site records, Fire History of the Foresthill Divide Burn Atlas (1931 to date), historic rolled maps (historic quads/USFS maps/grazing allotments), aerial photos (coverage since 1939), USFS Timber Compartments and Cutting Atlas, historic photo binders (recreation/timber/fire/storm damage/erosion control/miscellaneous history), State Mineralogist Reports (complete collection for Foresthill Divide), local historical vignettes by avocational historians.

Contact: Fern Brown and Livina Suehead, Todds Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation
Date: field consultation 6/30/00, telephone consultation 7/13/00

Contact: Gerda Percival, President, Foresthill Divide Historical Society--Foresthill
Date telephone consultation 7/14/00

Contact: Mike Moffit, Past President, Foresthill Divide Historical Society—Foresthill
Date: telephone consultation 7/13/00

Contact: Dean Decker, District Archaeologist, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management—Folsom
Date: telephone consultation 7/13/00

Contact: John Foster, Senior Archaeologist, State of California Department of Parks and Recreation--Sacramento
Date: telephone consultation 7/13/00

Contact: Dan Foster, Archaeologist, State of California Division of Forestry—Sacramento

Date: telephone consultation 7/13/00

Contact: Norman Wilson, Historian/Archaeologist (pioneer family of Foresthill Divide)—Auburn
Date: field consultation 6/29/00

KEY REFERENCES

County and Local Histories

Plimpton (V1 and V2 North Fork American River; V1 and V2 Middle Fork American River)
History of Placer County (Angell1882)
History of Nevada and Placer County (Lardner and Brock 1924)
Mining Claims on the Foresthill Divide 1851-1902 (Rebok n.d.)
U.S. Post Offices and Postmasters of the Foresthill Divide 1851-1955 (n.d.)
Mining Town Cemeteries of the Foresthill Divide (n.d.)
Foresthill Divide Historic Resources Survey Committee (1991)
Placer County Directories (1861+)
California Place Names (Gudde 1974)
California Gold Camps (Gudde 1975)
Historic Spots in California (Hoover, Rensch and Rensch 1966)
Historical vignettes written by local avocational historians (DeMaria 1969; Henderson n.d.; G. Markley, 1976, 1977, 1979, 1980; Merz n.d.; Parker 1995)

Government Reports

Geographical Land Office survey plats and notes
State Mineralogist Reports (all volumes)
Historic Ditches of the Tahoe National Forest (Meisenbach 1989)
History of Tahoe National Forest: 1840-1940 (Jackson Research Projects 1982)
Gold Districts of California (Clark 1970)
Other reports by mining engineers, surveyors, geologists, mineralogists, and forest service officials

Prehistory and the Native American Period

Tahoe National Forest Cultural Resources Overview Part II: Ethnography (Carlson 1986)
Tahoe National Forest Cultural Resources Overview Part I: Prehistory (Markley and Henton 1985)
The Washoe (d'Azevedo 1986)
The Nisenan (Wilson and Towne 1978)
Selected Bibliography of Maidu Ethnography and Archaeology as Related to the Auburn Dam Project (Wilson and Towne 1972)
Handbook of the Indians of California (Kroeber 1925)

PRIOR HERITAGE RESOURCE INVESTIGATIONS

Archaeological investigations on the Foresthill Divide, or in western Placer County in general, are limited. Important archaeological sites have been studied within the Highway 124 corridor and the proposed Auburn Dam Project area. Other minor excavations have been conducted in the Tahoe National Forest at elevations generally above 3500 feet. Recorded sites on the Divide indicate a long time sequence of use; however, there have been few excavations to provide details and in-depth information. Work by Ritter (1970) in Spring Garden Ravine for the Auburn Dam Project and by Baker (2000), Baker and Shoup (1992) and Baker et al. (1993) along Highway 124 provide important archaeological references as they are the only excavations conducted within the FDCP.

While numerous prehistoric sites were recorded during the series of archaeological surveys for the Auburn Dam during the 1960s-1970s, all that remains are bedrock milling features, with more portable prehistoric artifacts being obliterated by gold-mining activities and natural flooding of the river canyon. A review and reorganization of the Cultural Resource Inventory for the Auburn Dam Project was undertaken for the Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, in response to the newly proposed Auburn Dam alternatives requiring reassessment of the database (McCarthy 1989). Previous research efforts by Rackerby (1965), Ritter (1971), and True (1975-1980) disclosed 493 sites, of which 460 are historic and 33 are prehistoric. Findings suggest that the most important site types are ones that represent a cluster of activities and are found at settlements or named locations. Sites have been heavily impacted by flooding and mining activities. The Spring Garden Ravine site (4-Pla-S101, as referenced by Baker 2000) was investigated in 1970 as part of the heritage resource studies for the Auburn Dam. Here, a rich artifact assemblage was radiocarbon dated to approximately 3500 years ago. Middle Archaic populations may have used the site as a base camp for embarking eastward into the higher Sierra, with Late Archaic populations using the site as a seasonal hunting camp.

The California Forest Highway 124 Project, located on the Foresthill Divide between Auburn Ravine and the community of Foresthill, generated a protracted period of archaeological fieldwork conducted intermittently between 1991 and 1997 (Baker and Shoup 1992; Baker et al. 1993). The work included archaeological excavations at two sites, CA-Pla-695/H, the Monte Verde site, and CA-Pla-728/H, the Old Joe site (Baker 2000). The project provided an opportunity for some of the first in-depth archaeological investigations on the Foresthill Divide. CA-Pla-725H is the location of the 1936 Monte Verde Inn and the former site of the 1875 Mile Hill Toll House (also known as the North Star Toll House and the U.S. Ranch). Site CA-Pla-728/H is the location of a historic marker at the south side of Foresthill Road, commemorating the location of the grave of "Old Joe," a stage horse killed during a robbery in 1901. Excavations at the Monte Verde site, CA-Pla-695/H, revealed a well-developed midden deposit that contained numerous artifacts. Site use dates from the Early Archaic Period (prior to 3000 B.C.), but the bulk of the evidence suggests that most intensive site use occurred during the Middle Archaic Period, beginning about 2500 B.C to 2000 B.C. and continuing to sometime between 500 B.C. and 100 B.C. The site was probably a small, permanent or semi-permanent village occupied by 40 to 70 people. Site occupation ended about A.D. 600. Excavations at CA-Pla-728/H disclosed human remains, which were removed with the approval of a Native American observer.

The Tahoe National Forest tested three prehistoric archaeological sites farther up on the Divide and

outside the FDCP area: the Sailor Flat Site (CA-Pla-500, Wohlgemuth 1984), the Sunflower Timber Sale Site (CA-Pla-664, Waechter 1989), and the Robinson's Flat site (USFS 05-17-54-176, Smith 1995). These sites are located in close proximity at the 6200 to 6500 foot elevation and appear to be seasonal base camps from which occasional hunting and gathering forays were made into nearby parts of the region during the Middle and Late Archaic periods.

Other excavations of relevance to the FDCP area are at Bullards Bar Reservoir (Humphreys 1969), approximately 30 miles north of the Foresthill Divide, which yielded artifacts from the Middle Archaic Period. Large-scale excavations at CA-Nev-407, near Grass Valley, revealed site occupation from at least 1110 B.C. to A.D. 1500 (Clewlow et al. 1984:213).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL COVERAGE

No exact information on archaeological coverage is currently available. Coverage strategies, which range from complete to cursory examinations, have not been consistently presented in archaeological reports. Beyond this, archaeological coverage figures are not always reported to the North Central Information Center, unless a report was prepared by a professional archaeologist. The FDCP area contains 109 square miles or approximately 69,760 acres, about half of which is on public land. . It appears that nearly 100 separate archaeological surveys have been conducted on land within the FDCP area. Survey has been accomplished using mixed reconnaissance strategies. The total survey area is approximately 17,067 acres, or about 25% of the FDCP. This coverage figure does not include work done as part of the Auburn Dam Project, where coverage area is unclear. Most of the archaeological coverage occurs on the USGS 7.5' Foresthill Quadrangle.

Number of Surveys	Acreage	USGS Quad
7	25	Auburn
5	800	Colfax
9 + UCD Sugar Pine Reservoir study	1600	Dutch Flat
5	212	Georgetown
8	560	Greenwood
49	7760	Foresthill
11	4590	Michigan Bluff
0	1520	Westville

The USFS has conducted archaeological surveys on approximately 50,000 acres; this comprises about one-third of the land under jurisdiction of the Foresthill Ranger District. Most of this coverage is outside the FDCP area.

BLM manages large blocks of land in proximity to the North Fork American River. Here, archaeological coverage has been sparse. While dozens of small inventory surveys have been completed, few large and comprehensive studies have been completed (Decker, personal communication 2000).

Most archaeological work within the FDCP area has been accomplished by register professional

foresters (RPF) as part of timber harvest plans (THP). The California Division of Forestry (CDF) forest practice rules require RPFs to submit archaeological reports within 30 days of a THP approval (D. Foster, personal communication 2000). These reports are then reviewed and field inspected by CDF archaeologists and copies of the final report are filed with the appropriate information centers (e.g., NCIC-CSUS)). Prior to 1991, RPFs may not have fully complied with the rule. Between 1995 and 1999 compliance improved. After May 1999 compliance has been complete, as CDF archaeologists send copies of approved reports directly to the information centers. RPFs are para-professional archaeologists and conduct archaeological surveys during the course of their timber stand evaluations. Consequently, the thoroughness of the ground surface inspection and the quality of reporting are variable and reports should be evaluated on an individual basis.

KNOWN HERITAGE RESOURCE INVENTORY

Heritage Resource Types

The varied environmental zones, geological characteristics, and geographical position of the Foresthill Divide account for a heritage resource base that is exceedingly rich and complex. This explains the wide array of prehistoric and historic site types. Prehistoric site types that have been inventoried include villages, multi-task camps, single task-specific locales, and special use sites.

1. Village sites typically contain: (a) flaked stone tools; (b) portable milling implements such as mortars and pestles and manos and metates; (c) stationary features like bedrock mortars, which are sometimes accompanied by small-diameter pitted boulders (or "cupules") that appear as miniature mortar cups; (d) discolored soil or "midden" which is usually deep and may contain animal bone, charcoal and organic residues; (e) house pit or dance house depressions; and (d) cemeteries.

2. Multi-task camps are not permanently occupied. They are characterized by: (a) both flaked stone and (b) ground stone tools and (c) sometimes bedrock mortars which may be associated with shallow middens or cupules.

3. Single task-specific locales are places where a single task is performed once or intermittently (seasonally) over successive years. They exhibit either flaked stone or ground stone tools. Isolated bedrock mortars with shallow middens and quarries, where rock sources were quarried and roughly fashioned into tool preforms, also fall into this category.

4. Special use sites involve: (a) petroglyphs (or rock writings); (b) hunting blinds; (c) cemeteries, (d) traditional plant collecting areas, etc.

Historic themes within the FDCP area are manifest archaeologically by site types related to mining, water management, logging, transportation, and ranching/agriculture. Those sites containing evidence of habitation structures, but which cannot be directly related to any identifiable historic activity, are classed as settlement site types. These often occur in association with trash dumps and sometimes cemeteries. Historic site types that share multiple activities have been categorized according to their dominant historic theme. For example, a mining site that contains water ditches, dirt roads, remains of a habitation structure, livestock corral, garden, trash dump, and small cemetery

is classified solely as a mining site.

Inventory of Heritage Resources

Little of the plan area has been subjected to systematic survey and many more sites are likely to exist than are summarized here. To best interpret the approximate tally of the numbers and types and statuses of sites recorded within the FDCP area to date, certain limitations and problems inherent in the data base need clarification. While the inventory of National Register sites and State Landmark and Points of Historical Interest designations is complete and up to date, data on the total number of sites recorded and their breakdown according to site type represents only a rough estimate of the actual extent of heritage resources inventoried. Total site numbers presented below may be underestimated. No concise database exists for Placer County. The master archaeological site inventory for the county is housed with NCIC-CSUS. Only about half of the total number of archaeological site records have been processed and received official Smithsonian numbers. The many site records that are still assigned temporary site numbers have been recorded by a number of private and public archaeologists with varying philosophies regarding what constitutes a "site." Consequently, some submitted site records may not ultimately qualify for site status. On the other hand, some resources, which should be considered sites, are treated as isolated artifacts or features and are therefore never assigned a site number. There are a large number of informally reported isolated finds that fall into this latter category. Also, some sites, containing both a prehistoric and historic component, have not been uniformly assigned a single number, as is current practice. Consequently, some have been treated as two separate sites and have been counted twice in the tabulations presented here. Furthermore, for archaeological surveys completed decades ago, sites were not always formally reported. In addition, ground visibility on the Divide is often obscured by brush/slash, natural conditions of the landscape, fire, etc., and these physical changes can greatly hinder the detection of surface artifacts and features. For these and other reasons, the figures presented below should be considered as very rough estimates for planning purposes.

About 85 archaeological sites recorded within the FDCP area have been assigned formal state trinomials by the NCIC and/or USFS. This number does not necessarily include sites inventoried on lands under the jurisdiction of the BLM . In addition, sites inventoried as part of THPs have been assigned primary numbers but most have not been formally entered into the NCIC inventory. Sites with state trinomials and their corresponding USGS quadrangles are listed below:

Number of Sites	USGS Quad
11	Auburn
6	Colfax
10	Dutch Flat
5	Foresthill
2	Georgetown
43	Greenwood
8	Michigan Bluff

These numbers do not include the 493 sites recorded as part of the Auburn Dam project, of which

460 are historic and 33 are prehistoric. Many of these sites are within the FDCP area but have not been assigned state trinomial numbers.

On adjoining USFS land, 422 sites have been recorded within the Foresthill Ranger District; most of these sites are located outside the FDCP area, with only 14 falling within the plan area. Approximately one-third of the USFS site total is prehistoric and two-thirds are historic and, within the latter category, 95% are associated with mining. Sites recorded on USFS lands within the FDCP area and their corresponding USGS quadrangles are listed below:

The following heritage resources located within the FDCP area are included in federal, state and/or local listings and inventories. Source numbers 1 through 10 are keyed to heritage property status.

1. National Register of Historic Places,
2. Archaeological Sites Determined Eligible for Inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places-California Office of Historic Preservation,
3. California Historical Landmarks,
4. California Points of Historical Interest,
5. Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record,
6. Historic Highway Bridges of California-California Department of Transportation,
7. Historic Properties Directory-California Office of Historic Preservation,
8. Historic Sites Listing of the Placer County General Plan Recreation Element,
9. Five Views-California Office of Historic Preservation,
10. National Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks-American Society for Civil Engineers Sacramento Chapter.

Yankee Jim's (3,4,9)
Town of Forest Hill (3,4,9)
Town of Michigan Bluff (3,4,9)
Butcher Ranch (3,4,9)
Grizzly Bear House (3,4,9)
Spring Garden School (3,4,)
Todd's Valley (3,4,9)
U.S. Ranch (3,4,9)
Baker Ranch (9)
Bird's Valley
Sunny South ((9)
Forks House (9)
National Historic Trail – Michigan Bluff to Last Chance (Western States Trail)

Bridges for historical consideration within or near FDCP area as evaluated by Caltrans (Caltrans Bridge Survey 1989) include:

Bridge No.	Features Intersected	Facility Carried	Historical Significance
19C0001	North Fork American River	Old Auburn Foresthill Rd	no

19C0002	North Fork American River	Yankee Jim's Rd	yes
19C0100	Shirtail Creek	Shirtail Cny Cr Rd	no
19C0175	Sugar Pine Dam Spillway	Iowa Hill Rd	no
19C0176	North Fork American River	Iowa Hill Rd	no

California Historical Landmarks (CHL) with the FDCP area include:

Yankee Jim's Townsite	CHL No. 398
Foresthill Townsite	CHL No. 399
Michigan Bluff Townsite	CHL. No. 402

The Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File for Placer County within the FDCP Area (Office of Historic Preservation 1/13/00) lists the following properties for consideration of eligibility to the National Register. Most of the properties have not been formally evaluated.

Address	Name	City	Date	*Status
Auburn Foresthills	Luster House	Foresthill	-	7
6100 Church St	Finning House	Foresthill	1860	7J
Foresthill Rd	Town of Forest Hill	Foresthill	1850	7J
24469 Foresthill Rd		Foresthill	1880	7J/6Y2
24707 Foresthill Rd		Foresthill	1936	7J/6Y2
24825 Foresthill Rd		Foresthill	1900	7J
24442 Lowe St		Foresthill	1935	7J
24160 Main St		Foresthill	-	7J
24260 Main St	Red & White Store	Foresthill	1910	7J
24406 Main St	Schuyler House	Foresthill	1863	7J
24490 Main St		Foresthill	1910	7J
24500 Main St		Foresthill	1930	7J
24560 Main St		Foresthill	1860	7J
24580 Main St	Foresthill Community Center	Foresthill	1910	7J
24590 Main St	Forest Hill Lodge	Foresthill	1947	7J
24640 Main St		Foresthill	1940	7J
24650 Main St		Foresthill	1890	7J
24680 Main St		Foresthill	1860	7J
24690 Main St		Foresthill	1890	7J
24708 Main St		Foresthill	-	7J
24750 Main St	Albrecht Store	Foresthill	1860	7J
SR49	Old Forest Hill Ranger Station	Foresthill	1934	6Y2
Yankee Jim's Rd	Yankee Jim's Rd	Foresthill	1867	7J/7L
5865 Church St		**Foresthill	-	7J
6040 Church St		**Foresthill	1930	7J
6055 Chruch St		**Foresthill	1901	7J
6070 Church St		**Foresthill	1930	7J
6121 Church St		**Foresthill	1900	7J

23801 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900		7J
24225 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1880		7J
24245 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1870		7J
24271 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1870		7J
24281 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1870		7J
24345 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1930		7J
24407 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1860		7J
24495 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1920		7J
24515 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1880		7J
24625 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900		7J
24645 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900		7J
24655 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900		7J
24675 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900		7J
24741 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900		7J
24781 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900		7J
24791 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900		7J
6060 Gold St		**Foresthill	1870		7J
24390 Lowe St		**Foresthill	1860		7J
24522 Lowe St		**Foresthill	1900		7J
24523 Lowe St		**Foresthill	1930		7J
8200 Michigan Bluff Rd	Michigan Bluff	**Foresthill	1850	7L	
24370 Race Track St		**Foresthill	1950		7J
Yankee Jim's Rd	Suspension Bridge	**Foresthill	1930		7J
5765 Yankee Jim's Rd		**Foresthill	1880		7J
5781 Yankee Jim's Rd		**Foresthill	1920		7J
5840 Yankee Jim's Rd	Ford House	**Foresthill	1890		7J
5850 Yankee Jim's Rd		**Foresthill	1860		7J

* 6Y = determined ineligible for listing in the National Register through a consensus determination of a federal agency and the State Historic Preservation Officer; 7 = not evaluated; some properties on the above list also appear in the inventory presented in the "Historical, Architectural, and Archaeological Resources of Placer County, Volume 3" December 1992]

** = vicinity of Foresthill

EXPECTED HERITAGE RESOURCE SENSITIVITY

Some idea of expected heritage resource sensitivity can serve as a general guide to advanced planning by providing a means of estimating the probable likelihood of sites occurring within a given area proposed for development. Sensitivity ratings indicate the degree of probability of finding sites in a specific project area and the relative number and types of sites expected. In this way, project sponsors can anticipate, at the outset, the extent to which heritage resources may become an issue for consideration later on.

Heritage resource sensitivity predictions for the FDCP area are derived from the collective results of

many archaeological surveys in similar environments throughout the region and incorporate the obvious correlation between archaeological site locations and basic environmental variables (water, level ground, etc.). In a study undertaken by the Tahoe National Forest, significant correlation was found for the major types of sites and basic environmental variables (Markley and Henton 1985). Lindström (1991) also incorporated these variables into her archaeological sensitivity model for the Nevada County General Plan Update. An assessment of archaeological sensitivity for the FDCP area draws directly from these two examples.

A checklist of environmental variables influencing heritage resource sensitivity assessment is presented below. Correlation with specific environmental variables is better for prehistoric site types than for historic sites. Historic activities, particularly mining, involved intensive use of specific locations with little reliance or dependence on local resources for subsistence or other economic needs.

I. Environmental Variables
   A. Topography
      1. Elevation (600 to 4800 feet)
      2. Percent slope (0-30%; 30-50%; 50+%)
      3. Aspect (north; south; east; west)
      4. Proximity to water (less than 1/4 mile; greater than 1/4 mile)
      5. Water Type
         a. Stream (intermittent, permanent)
         b. Spring
      6. Soils (agriculture/timber productive)/Geology (mineral deposits; quarry sources)
   B. Flora (oak-grassland; hardwood/conifer; conifer; meadow; community ecotone)
   C. Fauna
      1. Deer Range
      2. Fishery
II. Other Considerations
   A. Ethnographic/historic data that document past land use
   B. Previously recorded sites
   C. Recent/historic land modifications and disturbance

NATIVE AMERICAN PREHISTORY AND HISTORY

For both the Nisenan and Washoe, territories encompassed wide-ranging elevations and varied environmental zones. Intense gathering was most effectively carried out in the grassland and oak woodland zone below 3000 feet, where winter villages were located. Single task-specific locales, from which a multitude of plant and animal resources were procured, are found in higher numbers in proximity to winter villages. Cemeteries are generally restricted to the winter village area. Elevations above 3000 feet on the west slope are beyond the range of permanent occupation but are moderately to highly sensitive to contain seasonal multi-task camps, single task-specific locales, petroglyphs and hunting blinds. Level ground is a basic determinant for any prehistoric habitation. Areas with greater than 30% slope may accommodate some specific short-term tasks and hunting blinds. Petroglyphs generally occur on large horizontal bedrock outcrops.

Southern and eastern exposure was generally advantageous for warmth and protection from storms.

Villages are dependent upon a permanent water source. Seasonal multi-task camps occur around springs and along intermittent streams during their periods of flow. Camps along streams are most likely to occur at the confluence of a major creek flowing down from the ridge, thereby providing an access corridor up to the ridge.

Geological variables are centered upon rock sources used in fashioning stone tools; namely, metasediments that contain chert outcrops and volcanic flows which are comprised of basalt. Granite was favored for milling equipment. Horizontal smooth surfaces of granite or metasediments were preferred for petroglyphs.

The floral component is important in the prediction of prehistoric site locations in that plant resources made up a significant percentage of the subsistence base of the aboriginal inhabitants of the county. Elevation and microenvironmental diversity enhanced the rich and varied seasonal resources that were regularly available for human use. However, past plant and animal communities were different both in make-up and distribution than those found today. Changes are due to historic impacts associated with mining, logging and grazing, to the introduction of non-native plant species, and to the cessation of regular aboriginal burning, which was practiced to improve the vigor of plant resources. The pine forests, particularly in the purely coniferous areas, were not as productive for aboriginal exploitation as were areas containing hardwoods (especially oaks) and a wide variety of brush and grass species. Ecotones, where plants were procured from the junctions of two or more vegetation communities, were the most productive and efficient zones. Areas corresponding to more diversified plant species are designated as highly sensitive.

Animal resources, including large and small mammals, a variety of avifauna, large anadromous fish (salmon and steelhead trout), and smaller suckers and minnows, were significant food items. Deer herds are migratory, wintering in the major river canyons and moving upslope in elevation in the spring (a pattern not unlike that practiced by the Nisenan and Washoe). Zones that accommodate deer migration routes and winter ranges or support productive fisheries are highly sensitive.

Disturbed areas are less likely to contain sites that are intact and may be less sensitive. Areas containing known heritage resources for which there is some type of formal record are, of course, extremely sensitive. Heritage resource sensitivity goes beyond the archaeological record. Both the Maidu/Miwok and the Washoe have expressed a concerted interest in maintaining access to traditional lands upon which important medicinal and food plants continue to thrive.

A checklist of variables influencing prehistoric resource sensitivity is presented below. Prehistoric site types are abbreviated: V=village; MT=multi-task site; ST=single task-specific site; SU=special use; C=cemetery; HB=hunting blind; and P=petroglyph.

Variable	Predicted Site Type	Sensitivity Level
Elevation:		

600-3000	V/MT/ST/SU-C	high
3000-4800	MT/ST/SU-P,HB	moderate
Percent slope:		
0-30%	V/MT/ST/SU-C,P	high
30-50%	ST/SU-HB	moderate
50%+	ST/SU-HB	high-low
Aspect:		
Southern	V/MT/ST	high
Eastern	V/MT/ST	high
Western	V/MT/ST	moderate
Northern	MT/ST	high-low
Proximity to water:		
less than 1/4 mile	V/MT/ST	high
greater than 1/4 mile	ST	high-low
Water type:		
Stream – permanent	V/MT/ST	high
Stream – intermittent	MT/ST	moderate
Spring	V/MT/ST	high
Geology:		
Chert/metasediment outcrops	ST	high
Large, flat granite/ metasedimentary surface	SU-P	high
Flora:		
Oak grassland	V/MT/ST/SU-C	high
Hardwood/conifer	MT/ST	high
Conifer	ST	mod-low
Meadow	V/MT/ST	high
Ecotone	V/MT/ST	high
Fauna:		
Deer range	V/MT/ST/SU-HB, P	high-mod
Fishery	V/MT/ST	high-mod
Other:		
Ethnographic/historic documented land use	V/MT/ST/SU-C, HB, P	high
Previously recorded sites	V/MT/ST/SU-C, HB, P	high
Recent land modifications		
Undisturbed	V/MT/ST/SU-C, HB, P	high

Disturbed	V/MT/ST/SU-C, HB, P	mod-low

EUROAMERICAN HISTORY

Historic site locations are much less dependent upon environmental variables and correlation is less direct. Prehistoric and historic sites tend to be distributed differently, at least with regards to elevation. Lower elevations have a consistently higher than average density of historic sites, with mining sites generally located below 5000 feet.

Geological data are key to predicting historic mining sites. All areas which fall within zones containing: (1) deposits formed by hydrothermal processes, e.g. gold, silver, copper, zinc; (2) placer gold deposits; (3) industrial mineral deposits, e.g. barite, clay, and silica; (4) sand and gravel resources of alluvial and glacial origin; and (5) crushed stone resources consisting of metamorphic and volcanic rocks are highly sensitive. Other important independent variables include steep slopes and the presence of water. The positive correlation with water is to be expected, since many of the placer deposits are located near streams and rivers. The correlation with steeper slopes is also not surprising, as many of the mining sites are either located in the bottom of steep drainages or on canyon sides where rivers have cut through the gold-bearing deposits. Water management activities are initially tied to water, with sources generally at higher elevations. The correlations between ditches and flumes and environmental variables ends there, however, except for a preference for slopes with southern exposure.

Transportation routes are relatively free of environmental constraints. While more moderate terrain was favored, steep slopes were still traversed. The main road along the ridge of the Divide, along with intersecting road systems, is considered to be the major sensitive transportation corridor within the FDCP area.

Logging is tied to a forest vegetation type and the productivity of soils. More moderate slopes, sunny exposures and the presence of water are important considerations in historic logging camp locations.

Grazing—herding; sheep at higher elevations
Ranching—most intense on the Divide with smaller enterprises on lesser ridges, flats (now reservoirs)

Ranching/grazing activities are tied to elevation and soil productivity. The main constraints on historic agricultural activities were elevations below the frost zone and relatively level terrain. Although the Foresthill Divide is not considered a major agricultural area, ranches along the ridge supported localized crops of, fruits, and vegetables and hay. Ranching activities required water and sufficient feed for livestock and somewhat level terrain. Associated archaeological sites most closely conform to the combination of environmental variables requisite for prehistoric sites (level spots near water, etc.). Historic settlement is less dependent upon environmental variables than is prehistoric settlement. The need for level ground for habitation was overcome by artificial terracing. Water was brought in by ditch or flume and foodstuffs and supplies were transported to the living

site.

Disturbed areas are less likely to contain sites that are intact and may be less sensitive. Areas containing known heritage resources for which there is some type of formal record are, of course, extremely sensitive.

A checklist of variables influencing historic resource sensitivity follows. Historic site types and their abbreviations include: M=mining; S/D=settlement site with dump; W=water management; L=logging; T=transportation; C=cemetery, R-A=ranching and agriculture; and G=grazing.

Variable	Predicted Site Type	Sensitivity Level
Elevation:		
600-4800	M/S-D/W/T/C	high
600-3000	M/S-D/W/T/C/R-A	high
3000-4800	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/G	high
Percent slope:		
0-30%	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/R-A/G/I	high
30-50%	M/W/L/T	high
50%+	M	high
50%+	W/L/T	moderate
Aspect:		
Southern	S-D/W	high
Proximity to water:		
less than 1/4 mile	M/S-D/W/L/R-A/G	high
greater than 1/4 mile	M/S-D/R-A/G	mod-low
Water type:		
Stream – permanent	M/S-D/W/R-A/G	high
Stream – intermittent	M/S-D/W/R-A/G	mod
Spring	S-D/R-A/G	high
Geology/soils:		
Mineral bearing deposits	M/S-D/W	high
Productive soils	L/S-D/R-A/G	high
Flora/Fauna:		
Oak-grassland	S-D/W/R-A/G	high
Hardwood/conifer	L	moderate
Conifer	L	high
Meadow	R-A/G	high

Other:		
Historic documentation of land use	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/R-A/G	high
Previously recorded sites	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/R-A/G	high
Recent land modifications		
Undisturbed	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/R-A/G	high
Disturbed	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/R-A/G	mod-low

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PART TWO – DRAFT COMMUNITY PLAN DOCUMENT

The existing and newly proposed Placer County General Plan [Section 5 Recreational and Cultural Resources] contains goals and policies that are related to heritage resource issues. The goals and policies applicable to the proposed project are as follows.

EXISTING PLACER COUNTY GENERAL PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES

Goals

5.D. To identify, protect, and enhance Placer County's important historical, archaeological, paleontological, and cultural sites and their contributing environments.

Policies

5.D.1. The County shall assist the citizens of Placer County in becoming active guardians of their community's cultural resources.

5.D.2. The County shall solicit the cooperation of the owners of cultural resources, encourage those owners to treat these resources as assets rather than liabilities, and encourage the support of the general public for the preservation and enhancement of these resources.

5.D.3. The County shall solicit the views of the Native American Heritage Commission and/or the local Native American community in cases where development may result in disturbance to sites containing evidence of Native American activity and/or to sites of cultural importance.

5.D.4. The County shall coordinate with the cities and municipal advisory councils in the county to promote the preservation and maintenance of Placer County's paleontological and archaeological resources.

5.D.5. The County shall use, where feasible, incentive programs to assist private property owners in preserving and enhancing cultural resources.

5.D.6. The County shall require that discretionary development projects identify and protect from damage, destruction, and abuse, important historical, archaeological, and cultural sites and their contributing environment. Such assessments shall be incorporated into a countywide cultural resource database, to be maintained by the Department of Museums.

5.D.7. The County shall require that discretionary development projects are designated to avoid potential impacts to significant paleontological or cultural resources whenever possible. Unavoidable impacts, whenever possible, shall be reduced to a less than significant level and/or shall be mitigated by extracting maximum recoverable data. Determinations of impacts,

significance, and mitigation shall be made by qualified archaeological (in consultation with recognized local Native American groups), historical, or paleontological consultants, depending on the type of resource in question.

5.D.8. The County shall, within its power, maintain confidentiality regarding the locations of archaeological sites in order to preserve and protect these resources from vandalism and the unauthorized removal of artifacts.

5.D.9. The County shall use the State Historic Building Code to encourage the preservation of historic structures.

5.D.10. The County will use existing legislation and propose local legislation for the identification and protection of cultural resources and their contributing environment.

5.D.11. The County shall support the registration of cultural resources in appropriate landmark designations (i.e., National Register of Historic Places, California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or Local Landmark). The County shall assist private citizens seeking these designations for their property.

5.D.12. The County shall consider acquisition programs as a means of preserving significant cultural resources that are not suitable for private development. Organizations that could provide assistance in this area include, but are not limited to, the Archaeological Conservancy, The nature Conservancy, and the Placer Land Trust.

Implementation Programs

5.4. The County shall prepare, adopt, and implement procedures for review and approval of all County-permitted projects involving ground disturbance and all building and/or demolition permits that will affect buildings, structures, or objects 45 years of age or older.

Responsibility:	Planning Department Department of Museums Board of Supervisors
Time Frame:	FY 94-95; ongoing
Funding:	Mitigation fees Permit fees

5.5. The county shall develop preservation incentive programs for owners of important cultural and paleontological resources, using such mechanisms as the Mills Act, the Historic Preservation Easement program, the Certified Local Government program, and the Heritage Tourism program.

Responsibility:	Planning Department Department of Museums Assessor

Time frame: FY94-95; ongoing
Funding: Grants
General Fund

5.6. The County shall establish a formal Placer County register of Historical Properties to facilitate preservation of the locally significant historical properties that do not qualify for State or Federal listings.

Responsibility: Department of Museums
Time frame: FY 94-95; ongoing
Funding: General Fund
Grants

5.7 The County shall consider pursuing the following cultural resource management programs and shall explore possible funding sources to support these programs:

a. Pursuit of status as a Certified Local Government to facilitate state funding and technical assistance from the State Office of Historic Preservation;
b. B. Preparation, adoption, and implementation of a cultural resources ordinance that provides definitions and standards for identification and protection of cultural resources and provides penalties for their disturbance; and
c. C. Establishment of the staff position of cultural resources coordinator. The coordinator would provide archaeological and architectural historian expertise to the activities outlined above and would maintain a countywide cultural resource database. The coordinator would also provide assistance to the public in understanding cultural resource concerns and in fulfilling cultural resource legislative requirements.

Responsibility: Department of Museums
Time frame: FY 94-95 and as funds become available
Funding: Grants
Permit fees
General Fund

PROPOSED PLACER COUNTY GENERAL PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES

Goals

6.R. To identify, protect, record and enhance the Divide's important historical, archaeological, and cultural sites and their contributing environment [Goal 5.D]

6.R.1. The County shall assist the residents of Foresthill in becoming active guardians of their community's cultural resources. [5.D.1.]

6.R.2. The County and the community shall preserve the historical character of the core area of Foresthill.

6.R.3. Encourage all agencies and groups (USFS, Placer County, Historical Society) to preserve, record and mark sites and artifacts of local importance (such as Startown, Damascus, Sunny South, Red Star, Miller's Defeat).

6.R.4. The County shall solicit the cooperation of the owners of cultural resources, encourage those owners to treat these resources as assets rather than liabilities, and encourage the support of the general public for the preservation and enhancement of these resources. [5.D.2.]

6.R.5. The County shall solicit the views of the Native American Heritage Commission and/or the local Native American community in cases where development may result in disturbance to sites containing evidence of Native American activity and/or to sites of cultural importance. [5.D.3.]

6.R.6. The County shall use, where feasible, incentive programs to assist private property owners in preserving and enhancing cultural resources. [5.D.5.]

6.R.7. The County shall require that discretionary development projects identify and protect from damage, destruction, and abuse, important historical, archaeological, and cultural sites and their contributing environment. Such assessments shall be incorporated into a countywide cultural resource database, to be maintained by the Department of Museums. [5.D.6.]

6.R.8. Existing large trees or groves of historic and/or cultural significance (i.e., weather tree in Michigan Bluff, cork oaks on Todd Valley Road, Finning Tree off Finning Mill Road, Fork's House Grove, Harold T. "Bizz" Johnson Tree) should be identified and protected to the best of the County's ability. Trees so identified should only be removed as a last resort.

6.R.9. Areas of potential archaeological sensitivity shall be identified on the Land Use Map. Proposed development or public works projects within this area shall be required to undertake an archaeological survey prior to project approval. Proposed projects outside this area, in locations that have not been significantly disturbed, shall be referred to the California Archaeological Inventory, Northern Information Center, California State University, Sacramento for review and comment, and shall be required to undertake an archaeological survey prior to project approval upon recommendation by the Center.

6.R.10. The County shall, within its power, maintain confidentiality regarding the locations of archaeological sites in order to preserve and protect these resources from vandalism and the unauthorized removal of artifacts. [5.D.8.]

6.R.11. The County shall use the State Historic Building Code to encourage the preservation of historic structures. [5.D.9.]

6.R.12. The County shall support the registration of cultural resources in appropriate landmark designations (i.e., National register of Historic Places, California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or Local Landmark). The County shall assist private citizens seeking these

designations for their property. [5.D.11.]

6.R.13. The County shall consider acquisition programs as a means of preserving significant cultural resources that are not suitable for private development. Organizations that could provide assistance in this area include, but are not limited to, the Archaeological Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy and the Placer Land Trust. [5.D.12]

6.R.14. The County shall require that the subdivision of property containing existing features of cultural or aesthetic merit be carefully designed to preserve these structures and, where appropriate, utilize them as a focal point of neighborhood design. [4.1]

6.R.15. The County shall make the protection of significant cultural resources a priority over recordation and/or destruction. [1.3]

Policies

6.S.1. The County shall encourage the development of multipurpose facilities that can function as recreational sites, open space areas and for historic, cultural, and archaeological preservation. [1.2]

6.S.2. The use of the Foresthill Museum as a repository of historical artifacts on the Divide shall be encouraged.

PART THREE – PROGRAM EIR

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES- HERITAGE RESOURCES

Impacts

Direct impacts on terrestrial prehistoric and historic sites can occur from project related ground disturbance activities generated by any of the community plan alternatives. In addition, indirect impacts due to increased public access into an area containing a site could result in vandalism. Other indirect impacts could occur if development introduces incompatible visual or audible elements into the setting of a potentially significant resource. This is especially critical in the case of historic structures.

Mitigation

No specific impacts associated with the general FDCP; therefore, no specific mitigation measures are necessary at this time. All locales within the FDCP area destined for future development should be subjected to a detailed heritage resource analysis at the project specific stage. Such study should involve the required record search at NCIC, archival research, an archaeological field reconnaissance, pertinent architectural evaluations, and consultations with appropriate federal, state and local agencies and representatives of the Native American community.

If resources exist, the criteria for significance should be applied and, if necessary, appropriate mitigation measures developed. Mitigation measures may involve additional archaeological investigations and include incorporation of the heritage resource into the project plan as interpretive features. In particular, the archaeological remains left by ancestral Native Americans require respectful treatment, along with the continued incorporation of contemporary Native American opinions, knowledge and sentiments into the planning process.

Placer County should maintain the confidentiality of heritage site locations and provide heritage resource management guidance to development interests, so that developers can be informed of the sensitivity of the plan area and be prepared to budget for heritage resource studies at the earliest stages of project-specific planning.

A regional interpretive plan that highlights selected heritage resources and considers the costs and benefits of public interpretation and the community economy should be developed. The interpretation of heritage attractions that celebrate cultural diversity and human ingenuity enhances a community's economic base.

Appendix C

FORESTHILL COMMUNITY PLAN DEIR

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION ELEMENT

EXISTING CONDITIONS

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Updated April 8, 2003

5600-27

Foresthill Existing Conditions 4-8-03.rpt

FORESTHILL COMMUNITY PLAN
TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

The Transportation and Circulation Element of the Foresthill Community Plan addresses the development and maintenance of systems to adequately move persons, goods and services within the Foresthill Community. An inventory and evaluation of the operating characteristics of the existing circulation system is the initial task required to develop a comprehensive plan to guide transportation planning in the Community of Foresthill in the future. To understand existing travel characteristics and conditions, all major aspects of transportation in Foresthill have been inventoried and analyzed. The following sections discuss existing roadway functions, traffic volumes and traffic levels of service, as well as transit, rail service, and bicycle routes.

STREETS AND HIGHWAYS

Functional Classification

Foresthill is served by a system of county roads. The existing roadways in the Foresthill area are primarily comprised of 2-lane rural facilities reflecting the rural nature of the County. A description of some of the study area roadways is presented in the test that follows. KdANDERSON Transportation Engineers conducted new daily traffic counts during May 2000 and these new counts are presented in the descriptions of the roadways.

Foresthill Road. Foresthill Road is a two-lane rural roadway. This roadway provides the principle link between Auburn and Foresthill. This road also serves as the main route along the divide and continues easterly to Soda Springs. This facility is currently under construction and should be completed in the fall.

Foresthill Road currently carries 6,650 ADT east of the two-lane Foresthill Bridge. East of Happy Pines Drive, daily traffic volumes on Foresthill Road reach 4,876 ADT. West of Owl Hill Court, traffic volumes on Foresthill Road rise to 5,312 ADT.

East of the Foresthill community, daily traffic volumes on Foresthill Road drop significantly. West of Michigan Bluff Road, Foresthill Road currently carries 796 ADT with daily traffic volumes on Foresthill Rood dropping to 481 ADT east of Michigan Bluff Road.

Portions of Foresthill Road are currently under reconstruction. This 2.4-mile stretch of road is the last of three phases to be completed under the Federal Highway Administration contract. This project added passing lanes and widened many of the stretches of Foresthill Road between Auburn and Foresthill.

Yankee Jim's Road. Yankee Jim's Road is a narrow two facility. This facility connects the community of Foresthill to Canyon Way just south of Colfax. Currently, Yankee Jim's Road carries 186 ADT north of Race Track Street.

Spring Garden Road. Spring Garden Road is a two-lane roadway. This facility extends between Foresthill Road in the south and Yankee Jim's Road in the north. Currently, Spring Garden Road carries 624 ADT.

McKeon-Ponderosa Way. McKeon-Ponderosa Way is a two-lane roadway. This facility originates at Foresthill Road in the north. Extending to the south, McKeon-Ponderosa Way provides access to the west end of the Todd Valley area before winding further south toward the Middle Fork American River Canyon. Currently, McKeon-Ponderosa Way carries 1,495 ADT just south of Foresthill Road.

Happy Pines Drive. Happy Pines Drive is a two-lane roadway that provides access to Todd Valley. Originating at Foresthill Road, Happy Pines Drive extends to the south through Todd Valley before terminating at Green Leaf Lane just south of Todd Creek. Currently, Happy Pines Drive carries 1,293 ADT.

Todd Valley Road. Todd Valley Road is also a two-lane roadway. Within the Todd Valley area, Todd Valley Road originates at Foresthill Road. Extending to the south, Todd Valley Road loops to the east and then back to the north to terminate at Foresthill Road. Currently, Todd Valley Road carries 2,663 ADT on the eastern loop just south of Foresthill Road. The daily traffic on the west portion of the loop is substantially lower with daily traffic volumes of 319 ADT just south of Foresthill Road.

Mosquito Ridge Road. Mosquito Ridge Road is a two-lane roadway in the vicinity of Foresthill community. Originating at Foresthill Road, Mosquito Ridge Road winds to the northeast into the Tahoe National Forest. Currently, Mosquito Ridge Road carries 230 ADT just east of Foresthill Road.

Race Track Street. Rack Track Street is a two-lane roadway. Originating at Foresthill Road in the west, Rack Track Street parallels the north side of Foresthill Road before terminating in the east at Yankee Jim's Road. Currently, Race Track Street carries 901 ADT east of Foresthill Road.

Main Street. Main Street is a two-lane roadway that parallels the south side of Foresthill Road within the community of Foresthill. Extending from Foresthill Road in the west, Main Street provides accessed to the local businesses before connecting to Foresthill Road at the east end on town. Currently, Main Street carries 691 ADT just east of Foresthill Road.

Michigan Bluff Road. Michigan Bluff Road is a two-lane roadway that provides access from the community of Michigan Bluff north to Foresthill Road. Currently, Michigan Bluff Road carries 200 ADT south of Foresthill Road.

North Fork Ponderosa Way. North Fork Ponderosa Way is a two-lane facility that originates at Foresthill Road west of Todd Valley. Extending to the north, North Fork Ponderosa Way winds its way toward Weimar.

SCENIC CORRIDORS

Because of the special scenic qualities of certain areas in the Foresthill Area, those roads traversing these areas are recommended to be protected by special ordinances to enhance scenic view sheds.

Auburn-Foresthill Road. The entire portion of Auburn-Foresthill Road within general plan area is designated in the Placer County Scenic Highways System.

ROADWAY OPERATIONS

Level of Service Methodology

To assess the quality of existing traffic conditions in the Foresthill area, levels of service have been identified for arterial and collector facilities. "Level of Service" is a qualitative measure of traffic operating conditions whereby a letter grade, "A" through "F", corresponding to progressively worsening traffic conditions is assigned to an intersection or roadway segment. Current evaluation methodology is dependent upon the physical characteristics of the roadway segment or intersection and can additionally be categorized with respect to "urban" or "rural" conditions. Table 1 presents a description of the levels of service associated with two-lane rural highways.

The identified thresholds reflect information contained in the Placer County General Plan, as well as new information that reflects the character of Foresthill Road. Specifically, the effects of climbing lanes on average travel speed and resulting levels of service have been incorporated into these thresholds. Climbing lanes have the effect of raising level of service thresholds, although the overall capacity of the road remains constrained by the two lane sections.

TABLE 1
TWO-LANE RURAL HIGHWAY LEVEL OF SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

LOS	DESCRIPTION
A	Free Flow: Almost no platoons of three or more cars. Driver delayed no more than 30 percent by slow moving vehicles.
B	Free Flow: Some platoons form. Driver delayed no more than 45 percent by slow moving vehicles.
C	Stable Flow: Noticeable increase in platoon formation and size. Drivers delayed more than 60 percent by slow moving vehicles.
D	Approaching Unstable Flow: Heavy platooning. Passing becomes difficult. Drivers delayed no more than 75 percent by slow moving vehicles.
E	Unstable Flow: Intense platooning. Passing is virtually impossible. Drivers delayed more than 75 percent by slow moving vehicles.
F	Forced Flow: Queues form behind breakdown points.

Source: Highway Capacity Manual, Transportation Research Board, 1985

The level of service characteristics of study area roadways will vary in relation to terrain and passing opportunities. In order to utilize appropriate evaluation criteria, the study roadway characteristics need to be determined. Toward this end, the roadways in the plan area were classified based on the individual roadway characteristics. Roadways within the rural area of the County were either classified as "mountainous" if they had steep grades or as "rolling". The "rolling" classification was further disaggregated based on the presence of passing/climbing lanes. The passing/climbing lane percentages were calculated based on field data. Roadways within as the Foresthill Community that comprise the local street system were classified as Arterials based on operations.

Table 2 presents the evaluation criteria that were utilized to determine level of service operations on each of these roadway. The daily capacity thresholds account for roadway operating characteristics such as directionality, percentage of trucks and recreational vehicles, and the percentage of passing lanes. As shown, the presence of passing lanes on a two-lane roadway can substantially increase the level of service thresholds as these passing lanes provide motorists the opportunity to travel around slower moving trucks and vehicles. While these passing lanes do provide an increasing benefit as the percentage of passing lanes increase, there is a limit. Roadways with higher passing percentages reach this "capacity limit" but still provide a good level of service. As shown under the two-lane rolling criteria with 71% passing lanes, the maximum daily traffic threshold on this section increases quickly to a point that reaches the ultimate capacity of the roadway at LOS "C" operations. Once the maximum capacity of the roadway is reached, the two-lane section becomes the constraint and no more vehicles can physically be delivered by the roadway system, even with an increase in the precentage of passing lanes. Therefore, while motorists experience unimpeded operations on the two-lane uphill sections, the overall roadway capacity is still constrained by the two-lane sections.

TABLE 2
EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR LEVEL OF SERVICE

	Maximum Daily Traffic Volume Level of Service				
Roadway Capacity Class	**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**	**E**
1. Rural 2-lane-Rolling w/o Passing Lane	1,060	3,400	6,400	9,780	18,540
2. Rural 2-lane-Rolling w/39% Climbing Lanes	1,060	4,520	10,710	14,190	18,540
3. Rural 2-lane-Rolling w/40% Climbing Lanes	1,060	4,600	10,880	14,430	18,540
3. Rural 2-lane Rolling w/43% Climbing Lanes	1,060	4,860	11,450	15,170	18,540
3. Rural 2-lane Rolling w/71% Climbing Lanes	1,060	9,940	18,540	18,540	18,540
4. Rural 2-lane-Rolling (PCGP)	1,600	4,200	7,200	11,400	21,000
5. Rural 2-lane-Mountainous (PCGP)	800	2,400	4,200	7,200	14,000
6. Arterial - Low Access Control (PCGP)	7,000	10,500	12,000	13,740	15,000

Source: Placer County GP, kdANDERSON Transportation Engineers, based upon Highway Capacity Manual, Transportation Research Board, 1985.

Table 3 presents the operating levels of service for each of these study roadways. As shown, currently all of the study roadways operate at level of service "C" or better.

TABLE 3
EXISTING DAILY ROADWAY TRAFFIC VOLUMES AND LEVELS OF SERVICE

ROADWAY	LOCATION	CRITERIA	DAILY TRAFFIC	LOS
Foresthill Road	Foresthill Bridge to Drivers Flat	Rural w/39% climbing	6,650	C
Foresthill Road	Drivers Flat to Spring Garden	Rural w/40% climbing	4,876	C
Foresthill Road	Todd Valley Rd (W) to Idle Wheels Mobile Home Park	Rural w/43% climbing	5,312	C
Foresthill Road	Idle Wheels Mobile Home Park to Michigan Bluff Rd	Arterial	796	A
Foresthill Road	E of Michigan Bluff Rd	Arterial	481	A
McKeon-Ponderosa	S of Foresthill Rd	Rural w/out passing	1,495	B
Spring Garden Rd	N of Foresthill Rd	Rural-Mountainous	624	A
Happy Pines Dr	S of Foresthill Rd	Rural w/out passing	1,293	B
Todd Valley Rd (W)	S of Foresthill Rd	Rural w/out passing	2,663	B
Todd Valley Rd (E)	S of Foresthill Rd	Rural w/out passing	319	A
Mosquito Ridge Rd	S of Foresthill Rd	Rural-Mountainous	230	A
Yankee Jim's Rd	N of Race Track St	Rural-Mountainous	186	A
Main St	S of Foresthill Rd	Arterial	691	A
Michigan Bluff Rd	S of Foresthill Rd	Rural w/out passing	200	A
Race Track St	N of Foresthill Rd	Arterial	901	A

TRANSIT SERVICE

The Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA) provides public mass transportation service in Foresthill. CTSA runs one bus daily between Foresthill and Auburn. The bus has five scheduled stops within the community of Foresthill. The first pick up is at Forest House at 7:45 a.m. with the last pick up at the Todd Valley Mobile Home Park at 8:05 a.m. before the bus travels down the hill to Auburn. In Auburn, the bus drops off all patrons at the Elders Transfer station. In the afternoon, the bus reverses the route and leaves Auburn at 3:30 p.m. and travels back to Foresthill. The bus ride costs $2.50.

BIKEWAY/PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

Both the bikeway and pedestrian facilities within the Foresthill community are limited. Limited sidewalks exist in the downtown area and bicyclists are forced to share the roadways with motorist.

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION

Foresthill is not served by a public/commercial airport. The closest airports to Foresthill are the Georgetown Airport and Auburn Municipal Airport.

RAIL SERVICE

Foresthill is not served by freight or passenger rail services.

TOURIST TRAFFIC

Based on conversations with Forest Service staff, about 900,000 tourists visit the Tahoe National Forest each year. Forest service staff also indicated that the two main routes into the national forest (i.e., Foresthill Road east of the Foresthill Community and Mosquito Ridge Road) were utilized about equally and that while the summer tourist crowd is still larger than the winter tourist crowd, the number of patrons traveling during the winter is increasing rapidly. Based on information that the forest service staff provided and accounting for such factors as carpooling and weekend vs. weekday traffic, it was estimated that tourist traffic would account for a total of about 570 weekday trips on Foresthill Road between Auburn and Foresthill.

In the future, this tourist traffic was to the Tahoe National Forest was assumed to double which equates to a 3.5% growth rate per year over the next 20 years. Doubling of the tourist traffic was done in consolation with County staff and was assumed to be reasonable.

ACCIDENT DATA

Placer County supplied that accident data for the last three years for the area. Specifically, the data that was available was for the most current period from 09-22-96 to 09-22-99. While additional data was available prior to these dates, accident data that is older than three years is typically not utilized. Table 4 summarizes the available accident data and lists those locations where the majority of accidents occurred on each roadway.

As shown in Table 4, the majority of accidents in the Foresthill area occurred on Foresthill Road. A total of 116 accidents were reported within this three-year period. Of these 116 accidents, 13 were in the vicinity of Driver's Flat Road (13), with that number dropping slightly at Upper Lake and North Fork Ponderosa Way (12) and at Todd Valley Road (11). Most occurred under dry roadway conditions (75) and while the drivers were unimpaired (84). A total of 52 accidents resulted in hit objects. A total of 3 people were killed and a total of 102 people were injured.

A total of 5 accidents were reported on Todd Valley Road. The majority occurred at Green Leaf Lane and resulted in one person being killed and 5 being injured. The roadway was dry (4) when most of the accidents occurred. A total of 4 drivers were impaired and 4 of the accidents resulted in

objects being hit.

On Spring Garden Road and Yankee Jim's Road a total of 3 accidents were reported, while Michigan Bluff Road had one accident within this three year time period.

TABLE 4
ACCIDENT DATA SUMMARY FOR FREQUENT ACCIDENT LOCATIONS

Roadway (Total Accidents)	Location	# of Accidents	# Injured	Occurrence	Roadway Surface Conditions		Was Driver Impaired?		Type of Collision	
Foresthill Road (116)	Drivers Flat	13	6 Injured	1	Dry	75	No	84	Hit Object	52
	Upper Lake	12	5 Injured	1	Wet	25	Yes	21	Broadside	14
	NF Ponderosa	12	4 Injured	2	Snowy/Icy	15	Unknown	9	Rear end	14
	Todd Valley	11	3 Injured	9			Sleepy or Fatigued	2	Overturn	11
	Lincoln Way	8	2 Injured	9					Sideswipe	11
	Lake Clemente	7	1 Injured	38					Other	8
	Old Auburn-Foresthill	5	1 Killed	3					Head on	6
Todd Valley Rd (5)	Green Leaf	3	4 Injured	1	Dry	4	Yes	4	Hit Object	4
	Foresthill	1	1 Injured	1	Wet	1	No	1	Other	1
	Mouganberry	1	1 killed	1						
Spring Garden (3)	Foresthill	2	1 Injured	2	Dry	3	No	3	Hit Object	2
	Owl Creek	1							Broadside	1
Yankee Jim's (3)	Canyon Way	1	1 Injured	2	Dry	2	Yes	2	Overturned	2
	Foresthill	1			Wet	1	No	1	Hit Object	1
	Spring Garden	1								
Michigan Bluff (1)	Foresthill	1	1 Injured	1	Dry	1	No	1	Hit Object	1

APPENDIX

FORESTHILL COMMUNITY PLAN DEIR

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION ELEMENT

FUTURE CONDITIONS

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FORESTHILL COMMUNITY PLAN DEIR
TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION ELEMENT

IMPACTS OF IMPLEMENTING THE PROPOSED PLAN

Future Circulation System

In addition to the existing roadway system, the Community Plan Circulation Element includes several new roadways. These roadways include three facilities that will complete the overall circulation system, provide parallel routes to Foresthill Road, and link the existing circulation system to existing/future development. Descriptions of each of these facilities are presented in the text that follows.

Power Line Road. Power Line Road, which is currently unimproved, is to be upgraded to a 32-foot rural secondary road along it current alignment. This facility will extend from Spring Garden Road in the west to ultimately connect with Foresthill Road in the east in the vicinity of the new high school site.

Yankee Jim's Road connection to Foresthill Road adjacent to the proposed new high school site. A new connection is proposed to link Yankee Jim's Road to Foresthill Road adjacent to the new high school site. The exact alignment of this new connection had not been determined.

Patent Road extension. Patent Road will be extended from its current terminus just east of Todd Valley Road to Mosquito Ridge Road in the east. While the exact alignment of this new facility has not been determined, it will likely be located just south of the planned development in the area thereby forming a new east-west connection that parallels Foresthill Road to the south. The connection with Mosquito Ridge Road will most likely be located very close to Foresthill Road based on existing topography. In addition, the existing stretch of Todd Valley Road is to be upgraded from Patent Road westward to its' existing upgraded section that lies just east of Green Ridge Drive.

Trip Generation

Estimating the number of vehicle trips associated by new development and assigning those trips to the area street system determined the amount of vehicular traffic that will be added to the Foresthill divide street system. Daily trip generation rates were derived from information presented in the Institute of Transportation Engineers publication Trip Generation (6^{th} Edition), the Placer County model, discussions with Placer County staff, and existing traffic generation for the area. Table A in the Appendix details the source and derivation of the trip generation rates utilized in this study.

Land use quantities were also obtained from the EIR consultant and Placer County staff. At build out of the Community Plan, a total of 4,333 dwelling units are anticipated to exist within the Foresthill Divide. As discussed by Placer County staff, this total dwelling unit count within the Foresthill Community includes a 20% reduction in "build out" housing based on anticipated development levels. An additional 165.5 acres on non-residential uses and a 400-student high

school comprise the new non-residential development portion of the Community Plan. Table 1 displays these future land uses.

TABLE 1
TRIP GENERATION ANALYSIS

Land Use	Quantity	Units	Daily Rate	Daily Trips Generated
Future Land Use				
Single Family Residential	2,208 du	du's	5.54 trips/du	12,232
Multi-Family Residential	172 du	du's	3.99 trips/du	686
Subtotal Residential	2,380 du			12,918
Retail	35.0 acres	acre	145 trips/acre	5,075
Pass-by (20%)				<1,015>
New Retail Trips				4,060
Business/Professional	60.0 acres	acre	20 trips/acre	1,200
Industrial	70.5 acres	acre	35 trips/acre	2,468
High School	400 students	student	1.79 trips/student	716
Subtotal Non-Residential				8,444
100% Match				8,444
"Net" Residential Trips				4,474
Total External Trips				**4,474**

As shown in Table 1, a total of 12,918 daily trips are anticipated to be generated from the residential portion of the new development within the Community Plan while a total of 8,444 "new" daily trips are anticipated from the non-residential portion of the new development within the Community Plan.

Based on the characteristics of the Foresthill Community, discussions with Placer County staff, and the future land uses, it was assumed that 100% of the "new" non-residential trips would match the "new" residential trips and within the Foresthill Community itself. Accounting for the internal matching, a total of 4,474 external trips result due to an imbalance of residential and non-residential uses.

Trip Distribution

The study area trip distribution was based on existing travel patterns and the distribution of the existing and future development in the area. New external trips were distributed onto the surrounding roadway system. For commercial uses, 20% of the trips were considered to be pass-by trips. These pass-by trips were attracted from traffic passing the site on the adjacent street system. Figure 1 displays the resulting daily traffic volumes on the study area roadways.

Figure 1 – Future Daily Traffic Projections

Impact Analysis

The resulting future projections on the study roadways are presented in Table 2. These future daily traffic projections were compared to the level of service criteria that was previously developed for the study area roadways. As shown in Table 2, all of the study are roadways are projected to operate at LOS "C" or better with the exception of Foresthill Road on the two study sections that lie between the Foresthill Bridge and Driver's Flat Road and between Driver's Flat Road and Spring Garden Road, which are projected to operate at LOS "D".

Projected daily roadway volumes were compared to the daily traffic warrant contained in the Traffic Manual to determine if traffic signals would eventually be needed at any of the intersections within the study area. Based on these daily volumes, three intersections are projected to meet warrants for signalization. These three intersections include:

1. Foresthill Road/McKeon-Ponderosa
2. Foresthill Road/Todd Valley (West)
3. Foresthill Road/Powerline Road

TABLE 2
FUTURE DAILY ROADWAY TRAFFIC VOLUMES AND LEVELS OF SERVICE

Roadway	Location	Criteria	LOS C Threshold	Daily Traffic	LOS
Foresthill Road	Foresthill Bridge to Drivers Flat Rd	Rural w/39% climbing	10,710	11,400	D
Foresthill Road	Driver's Flat Rd to Spring Garden Rd	Rural w/40% climbing	10,880	11,700	D
Foresthill Road	Spring Garden to Todd Valley Rd (W)	Rural w/71% climbing	18,540	9,900	C
Foresthill Road	Todd Valley (W) to Idle Wheels Mobile Home Park	Rural w/43% climbing	11,450	10,200	C
Foresthill Road	Idle Wheels Mobile Home Park to Mosquito Ridge Rd	Arterial	12,000	10,800	C
Foresthill Road	Mosquito Ridge Rd to Yankee Jim's Rd	Arterial	12,000	9,100	B
Foresthill Road	Yankee Jim's Rd to Blackhawk Ln	Arterial	12,000	6,300	A
Foresthill Road	Blackhawk Ln to Ebberts Ranch Rd	Arterial	12,000	3,050	A
Foresthill Road	Ebberts Ranch Rd to Michigan Bluff Rd	Arterial	12,000	1,450	A
Foresthill Road	E. of Michigan Bluff Rd	Arterial	12,000	1,100	A
McKeon-Ponderosa	S. of Foresthill Rd	Rural w/out passing	6,400	1,700	B
Spring Garden Rd	N. of Foresthill Rd	Rural-Mountainous	4,200	1,050	B

TABLE 2
FUTURE DAILY ROADWAY TRAFFIC VOLUMES AND LEVELS OF SERVICE

Roadway	Location	Criteria	LOS C Threshold	Daily Traffic	LOS
Happy Pines Dr	S. of Foresthill Rd	Rural w/out passing	6,400	1,450	B
Todd Valley Rd (W)	S. of Foresthill Rd	Rural w/out passing	6,400	3,100	B
Todd Valley Rd (E)	S. of Foresthill Rd	Rural w/out passing	6,400	500	A
Mosquito Ridge Rd	S. of Foresthill Rd	Rural-Mountainous	4,200	1,350	B
Yankee Jim's Rd	N. of Race Track St	Rural-Mountainous	4,200	1,550	B
Main St	S. of Foresthill Rd	Arterial	12,000	900	A
Michigan Bluff Rd	S. of Foresthill Rd	Rural w/out passing	6,400	400	A
Race Track St	N. of Foresthill Rd	Arterial	12,000	1,350	A
Todd Valley Connection	Between Todd Valley and Foresthill	Rural w/out passing	6,400	900	A
Spring Garden Connection (Powerline Rd)	E. of Spring Garden Rd	Rural-Mountainous	4,200	150	A
Spring Garden Connection (Powerline Rd)	N. of Foresthill Rd adjacent to high school	Arterial	12,000	1,850	A

Transit Service

When the Foresthill Community Plan area fully develops, the need for an additional bus or change in bus routes may exist. A short and/or long range transit study should be conducted to determine future needs.

Park and Ride Lot

Currently, the Foresthill does not have a designated park and ride lot. Installation of park and ride lots would provide motorist wishing to ride share and/or ride transit a central place to meet and leave their vehicles.

Bikeway/Pedestrians

With development of the Community Plan area, the need for both bikeway and pedestrian facilities will increase. A bikeway master plan should be developed. In addition, a trail master plan could also be developed. The Foresthill Community Plan policies relating to bicycle and pedestrian facilities should be implemented. These policies include:

5.1-5 Road improvements along Foresthill Road should include a Class I bikeway (off-street bike trail or path that is physically separated from the roadway) between major residential areas and downtown Foresthill, i.e., currently between the Spring Garden Road and Black Hawk Road. As new residential neighborhoods are developed, the Class I bikeway should be extended to reach them. New development projects that border Foresthill Road should

include the bikeway as part of their development plans. The bikeway may utilize existing road, water, power line or fire access easements where appropriate. The bikeway may be developed along the edge of the proposed improved Foresthill roadway in advance of or in conjunction with Federal, State and/or County-funded improvements.

5.1-6 A Class II bikeway (on-street bike lanes with signs, striped lane markings, and pavement legends) or Class I bikeway should be implemented along the rest of Foresthill Road between Auburn and the intersection of Sugar Pine Road.

5.1-7 Community organizations, businesses and individuals are encouraged to sponsor sections of the proposed Class I bikeway, working with Placer County, community representation (Foresthill Forum) and nearby property owners to plan and develop their section. Placer County should pursue all appropriate sources of funding for development of the bikeway.

5.3-3 Road easements in new developments shall include space for a five-foot multi-purpose roadside trail, or equivalent off-road trail network to enable children, equestrians, bicyclists, and pedestrians to safely circulation throughout the neighborhood.

5.3-4 Install traffic calming measures as appropriate within the Core Area to reduce speeds and create a bicycle-and pedestrian-friendly environment.

5.4-3 The Core Area shall be a "pedestrian friendly" zone. The County right-of-way along Foresthill Road, Main Street and Soap Street shall provide space for at least a five-foot path on properties adjacent to roadways for pedestrians. This path may be such that it connects to the path on adjacent properties to provide a continuous route.

5.4-4 The Western States Train through historic downtown is important as a historical asset and continues to provide circulation for equestrians, bicycles and pedestrians. This trail shall be preserved and incorporated into plans for enhancing circulation through Foresthill.

5.4-5 A bike and pedestrian path that connects Memorial Park to the Elementary School via Harrison and Church Streets and to the site for the proposed high school via Race Track Street should be constructed to provide safe circulation between these popular destinations.

Impact Summary

Adoption of the Community Plan results in increased traffic throughout the Community Plan area. Development of the Community Plan as proposed results in impacts because the circulation system does not have enough available capacity to accommodate this level of development.

With implementation of the Foresthill Community Plan, the resulting level of service on Foresthill Road is "D" on the sections that lies between the Foresthill Bridge and Driver's Flat Road and between Driver's Flat Road and Spring Garden Road. As the Community Plan Policy 5.1-1 requires LOS "C" operations be maintained on Foresthill Road between Auburn and the Idle Wheels Mobile Home Park, this is considered a significant impact. Level of service "D" on a Class I highway results in motorists spending between 65% to 80% of their time following

other vehicles which is an increase from the LOS "C" threshold of 50% to 65%. This additional time spent following other motorists results in the average traveling speeds decreasing from 45 to 50 miles per hour at LOS "C" to 40 to 45 miles per hour for LOS "D" operations.

Reduction of the overall amount of development within the Community Plan area will be required unless the County is willing to accept LOS "D" operations on additional sections of Foresthill Road. Reduction of future housing will reduce the amount of external traffic leaving the area on Foresthill Road, which in turn will decrease future daily traffic projections on this facility. Based on daily capacity thresholds, reduction of about 800 daily trips on Foresthill Road is needed in order to meet the County's existing LOS "C" policy. As a general note, each house is projected to generate 5.54 daily trips, of which about 95% of those trips that do not match within the Foresthill Community, are anticipated to be traveling between Auburn and Foresthill. Therefore, if about 160 less homes were to be proposed to develop, a total of about 850 less daily trips would result on Foresthill Road between Auburn and Foresthill. This reduction in residential development would yield LOS "C" operations on the two sections of Foresthill Road that are projected to operate at LOS "D" under the current development proposal.

The County has inquired to the feasibility of adding additional passing lanes on Foresthill Road in order to increase the capacity and provide LOS "C" operations. Increasing the passing lane percentage to 39% from 43% would eliminate the roadway LOS "D" operations on the 5.6 mile Foresthill Road between the Foresthill Bridge and Drivers Flat Road. In order to achieve 43% passing lanes on this uphill section of Foresthill Road, an additional 0.22 miles of passing lanes (or a 4% increase) are required. On the section of Foresthill Road between Drivers Flat Road and Spring Garden Road, a total of 45% passing lanes would be needed on this uphill section in order to achieve LOS "C" operations. This 5% increase in passing lanes would equate to the need for an additional 0.24 miles of passing lane on this 4.84-mile segment.

Based on field observations, most of the uphill sections already have passing lanes. Those sections that do not have passing lanes are either: 1) located within rugged terrain that would require expensive cut and fill in order to add additional pavement width, or 2) do not have sufficient shoulder width over long stretches of roadway which could easily be converted into additional passing lanes. Therefore, based on field observations, adding another 4% to 5% passing lanes on Foresthill Road between the Foresthill Bridge and Driver's Flat Road and between Driver's Flat Road to Spring Garden Road may not be economically feasible.

While not needed from a capacity standpoint, installation of a center two-way left turn on Foresthill Road from the Todd Valley area through the downtown area is recommended as it will improve traffic flow during peak periods. This center two way left turn will improve safety by providing left turning motorists a refuge area to wait for the next available gap out of the through traffic flow on Foresthill Road, thus allowing through traffic to continue its progression. Installation of this improvement may result in less rear end accidents that could be avoided by providing left turning motorists a refuge area out of the thru travel lane.

Install signals on Foresthill Road at its' intersections with Spring Garden Road, Todd Valley (W), and the Spring Garden Connection (Powerline Road). The Community Plan Policy 5.6-1

states that if traffic signals become necessary on Foresthill Road, utilize control mechanisms that minimize the delay of through traffic, especially during non-commute hours.

Roundabouts are an alternative to signalization and often minimize traffic delays resulting from signalization. County staff indicated that a detailed roundabout analysis was not currently needed, and that not all intersections are good candidates for signalization.

APPENDIX

TRIP GENERATION TABLE FOR FORESTHILL		
Land Use Quantity – New	**Rate**	**Source for Trip Generation Rates**
High School	1.79 trips/acre	Utilized ITE Trip Generation, 6th Edition rates directly
Single Family	5.54 trips/du	Trip generation rates were developed in consultation with Placer County staff. Utilized Placer County model daily rate of 9.0 trips/du. A factor of 80% (as per Placer Model) was applied to model's daily rate to account for rural conditions. Then rate was factored by an additional 77% calibrate to existing conditions in Foresthill.
Multi Family	3.99 trips/du	Trip generation rates were developed in consultation with Placer County staff. Utilized Placer County model daily rate of 6.5 trips/du. A factor of 80% (as per Placer Model) was applied to model's daily rate to account for rural conditions. Then rate was factored by an additional 77% calibrate to existing conditions in Foresthill.
Retail	145 trips/acre	Trip generation rates were developed in consultation with Placer County staff. Utilized ITE trip generation specialty rate on a per square foot basis. A lower FAR (.10) was utilized to account for topography and sewage disposal. Then the rate was factored by an additional 80% to account for rural characteristics of Foresthill. This rate was converted to a per acre basis and rounded up to nearest 5 trips per acre.
BP	20 trips/acre	Trip generation rates were developed in consultation with Placer County staff. Utilized ITE Business Park rate on a per acre basis to create a per acre rate for General office by comparing peak hour trip generation rates. A lower FAR (0.5) was utilized to account for topography and sewage disposal. Then the rate was factored by an additional 80% to account for rural characteristics of Foresthill. This rate was rounded to nearest 5 trips per acre.
Industrial	35 trips/acre	Trip generation rates were developed in consultation with Placer County staff. Utilized ITE trip generation rate. Then the rate was factored by 80% to account for the rural characteristics of Foresthill. This rate was rounded to the nearest 5 trips per acre.

Appendix D

Appendix
Acoustic Terminology

Acoustics The science of sound.

Ambient Noise The distinctive acoustical characteristics of a given space consisting of all noise sources audible at that location. In many cases, the term ambient is used to describe an existing or pre-project condition such as the setting in an environmental noise study.

Attenuation The reduction of an acoustic signal.

A-Weighting A frequency-response adjustment of a sound level meter that conditions the output signal to approximate human response.

Decibel or dB Fundamental unit of sound, defined as one-tenth of the logarithm of the ratio of the sound pressure squared over the reference pressure squared.

CNEL Community Noise Equivalent Level. Defined as the 24-hour average noise level with noise occurring during evening hours (7 - 10 p.m.) weighted by a factor of three and nighttime hours weighted by a factor of 10 prior to averaging.

Frequency The measure of the rapidity of alterations of a periodic signal, expressed in cycles per second or hertz.

Ldn Day/Night Average Sound Level. Similar to CNEL but with no evening weighting.

Leq Equivalent or energy-averaged sound level.

Lmax The highest root-mean-square (RMS) sound level measured over a given period of time.

Loudness A subjective term for the sensation of the magnitude of sound.

Masking The amount (or the process) by which the threshold of audibility is for one sound is raised by the presence of another (masking) sound.

Noise Unwanted sound.

Peak Noise The level corresponding to the highest (not RMS) sound pressure measured over a given period of time. This term is often confused with the "Maximum" level, which is the highest RMS level.

RT_{60} The time it takes reverberant sound to decay by 60 dB once the source has been removed.

Sabin The unit of sound absorption. One square foot of material absorbing 100% of incident sound has an absorption of 1 sabin.

Threshold of Hearing The lowest sound that can be perceived by the human auditory system, generally considered to be 0 dB for persons with perfect hearing.

Threshold of Pain Approximately 120 dB above the threshold of hearing.

Impulsive Sound of short duration, usually less than one second, with an abrupt onset and rapid decay.

Simple Tone Any sound which can be judged as audible as a single pitch or set of single pitches

Appendix E

FHWA-RD-77-108 Highway Traffic Noise Prediction Model
Data Input Sheet

Project #: 2000-070
Desciptior Existing
Ldn/CNEL Ldn
Hard/Soft: Soft

Segment	Roadway Name	Segment Description From	To	ADT	Day %	Eve %	Night %	% Med. Trucks	% Heavy Trucks	Speed	Distance
1	Yankee Jim	North of Race Track Road		186	85		15	1	1	35	100
2	Forest Hill	East of Forest Hill Bridge		6650	85		15	2	2	55	100
3		South of Lutheran Church		5312	85		15	2	2	45	100
4		South of Michigan Bluff Road		796	85		15	2	2	45	100
5		North of Michigan Bluff Road		481	85		15	2	2	45	100
6		North of Happy Pines Road		4876	85		15	2	2	45	100
7	Main St.	East of Forest Hill		691	85		15	2.5	1.5	25	100
8	McKeon	South of Forest Hill Road		1495	85		15	2	1	35	100
9	Michigan Bluff	East of Forest Hill Road		200	85		15	2	1	35	100
10	Race Track Rd	North of Forest Hill		901	85		15	2	1	35	100
11	Todd Valley	Northeast of Forest Hill Road		319	85		15	2	1	35	100
12		Southeast of Forest Hill Road		2663	85		15	2	1	35	100
13	Happy Pines	East of Forest Hill Road		1293	85		15	2	1	35	100
14	Mosquito Ridge	East of Forest Hill Road		230	85		15	2	1	35	100
15	Spring Garden	West of Forest Hill Road		624	85		15	2	1	35	100

Predicted Levels

Project # : 2000-070
Description: Existing
Ldn/CNEL: Ldn
Hard/Soft: Soft

Segment	Roadway Name	Segment Description From	To	Autos	Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Total
1	Yankee Jim	North of Race Track Road		41.1	30.9	36.1	42.6
2	Forest Hill	East of Forest Hill Bridge		62.2	52.5	56.4	63.5
3		South of Lutheran Church		58.7	50.1	54.6	60.5
4		South of Michigan Bluff Road		50.4	41.9	46.4	52.3
5		North of Michigan Bluff Road		48.3	39.7	44.2	50.1
6		North of Happy Pines Road		58.3	49.8	54.3	60.2
7	Main St.	East of Forest Hill		42.5	38.3	42.2	46.1
8	McKeon	South of Forest Hill Road		50.1	42.9	45.1	51.9
9	Michigan Bluff	East of Forest Hill Road		41.3	34.2	36.4	43.1
10	Race Track Rd	North of Forest Hill		47.9	40.7	42.9	49.7
11	Todd Valley	Northeast of Forest Hill Road		43.4	36.2	38.4	45.2
12		Southeast of Forest Hill Road		52.6	45.4	47.6	54.4
13	Happy Pines	East of Forest Hill Road		49.5	42.3	44.5	51.2
14	Mosquito Ridge	East of Forest Hill Road		42.0	34.8	37.0	43.7
15	Spring Garden	West of Forest Hill Road		46.3	39.1	41.3	48.1

Noise Contour Output

Project # : 2000-070
Description: Existing
Ldn/CNEL: Ldn
Hard/Soft: Soft

Segment	Roadway Name	Segment Description From	To	-- Distances to Traffic Noise Contours -- 75	70	65	60	55
1	Yankee Jim	North of Race Track Road		1	1	3	7	15
2	Forest Hill	East of Forest Hill Bridge		17	37	80	172	371
3		South of Lutheran Church		11	23	50	109	234
4		South of Michigan Bluff Road		3	7	14	31	66
5		North of Michigan Bluff Road		2	5	10	22	47
6		North of Happy Pines Road		10	22	48	103	221
7	Main St.	East of Forest Hill		1	3	6	12	26
8	McKeon	South of Forest Hill Road		3	6	13	29	62
9	Michigan Bluff	East of Forest Hill Road		1	2	3	8	16
10	Race Track Rd	North of Forest Hill		2	4	10	20	44
11	Todd Valley	Northeast of Forest Hill Road		1	2	5	10	22
12		Southeast of Forest Hill Road		4	9	20	42	91
13	Happy Pines	East of Forest Hill Road		3	6	12	26	56
14	Mosquito Ridge	East of Forest Hill Road		1	2	4	8	18
15	Spring Garden	West of Forest Hill Road		2	3	7	16	35

Appendix _
FHWA-RD-77-108 Highway Traffic Noise Prediction Model
Data Input Sheet

Project #: 2000-070
Desciption: Future Conditions
Ldn/CNEL: Ldn
Hard/Soft: Soft

Segment	Roadway Name	Segment Description From	To	ADT	Day %	Eve %	Night %	% Med. Trucks	% Heavy Trucks	Speed	Distance
1	Yankee Jim	North of Race	Track	1350	85		15	1	1	35	100
2	Forest Hill	E. of Bridge		11400	85		15	2	2	55	100
3		South of Luth	Church	10200	85		15	2	2	45	100
4		W. of Race Track		10800	85		15	2	2	45	100
5		At Yankee Jim		9100	85		15	2	2	45	100
6	Main Street			900	85		15	2.5	1.5	25	100
7	McKeon Ponderosa			1700	85		15	2	1	35	100
8	Michigan Bluff			400	85		15	2	1	35	100
9	Race Track			1550	85		15	2	1	35	100
10	Todd Valley Rd	At Forest Hill	West	3100	85		15	2	1	35	100
11		At Forest Hill	East	500	85		15	2	1	35	100
12		Extension		900	85		15	2	1	35	100
13	Happy Pines			1450	85		15	2	1	35	100
14	Mosquito Ridge			1550	85		15	2	1	35	100
15	Spring Garden			1050	85		15	2	1	35	100
16	Power Line Rd			150	85		15	2	1	35	100

Predicted Levels

Project # : 2000-070
Description: Future Conditions
Ldn/CNEL: Ldn
Hard/Soft: Soft

Segment	Roadway Name	Segment Description From	To	Autos	Medium Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Total
1	Yankee Jim	North of Race	Track	49.7	39.5	44.7	51.2
2	Forest Hill	E. of Bridge		64.5	54.8	58.7	65.9
3		South of Luth	Church	61.5	53.0	57.5	63.4
4		W. of Race Trac		61.8	53.2	57.7	63.6
5		At Yankee Jim		61.0	52.5	57.0	62.9
6	Main Street			43.6	39.4	43.3	47.3
7	McKeon Ponderos			50.6	43.5	45.7	52.4
8	Michigan Bluff			44.4	37.2	39.4	46.1
9	Race Track			50.2	43.1	45.3	52.0
10	Todd Valley Rd	At Forest Hill	West	53.3	46.1	48.3	55.0
11		At Forest Hill	East	45.3	38.2	40.3	47.1
12		Extension		47.9	40.7	42.9	49.7
13	Happy Pines			50.0	42.8	45.0	51.7
14	Mosquito Ridge			50.2	43.1	45.3	52.0
15	Spring Garden			48.5	41.4	43.6	50.3
16	Power Line Rd			40.1	32.9	35.1	41.9

Noise Contour Output

Project # : 2000-070
Description: Future Conditions
Ldn/CNEL: Ldn
Hard/Soft: Soft

Segment	Roadway Name	Segment Description From	To	-- Distances to Traffic Noise Contours -- 75	70	65	60	55
1	Yankee Jim	North of Race	Track	3	6	12	26	56
2	Forest Hill	E. of Bridge		25	53	115	247	532
3		South of Luth	Church	17	36	78	168	362
4		/. of Race Trac		17	38	81	174	376
5		At Yankee Jim		16	34	72	156	335
6	Main Street			1	3	7	14	30
7	/cKeon Ponderos			3	7	15	31	67
8	Michigan Bluff			1	3	6	12	26
9	Race Track			3	6	14	29	63
10	Todd Valley Rd	At Forest Hill	West	5	10	22	47	101
11		At Forest Hill	East	1	3	6	14	30
12		Extension		2	4	10	20	44
13	Happy Pines			3	6	13	28	61
14	Mosquito Ridge			3	6	14	29	63
15	Spring Garden			2	5	11	23	49
16	Power Line Rd			1	1	3	6	13